



AMERICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION

Grand Master Exhibitor Award

OF

PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK

TO

S. Robert Powell

November 14, 1998

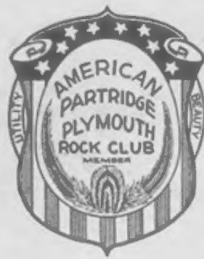
Date

Pat Malone
Pat Malone, APA President

Lorna Rhodes
Lorna Rhodes, APA Sec/Treasurer



Partridge Plymouth Rock Guide Book



“The Beauty=Utility Fowl”



PUBLISHED BY
THE AMERICAN PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB
L. C. ALLEN, Sec'y-Treas., Sanford, Maine, U. S. A.

Twenty-five cents per Copy
Free to Club Members.

Affectionately
Dedicated To



S. A. Noftzger, Wabash, Ind.
Originator of
PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

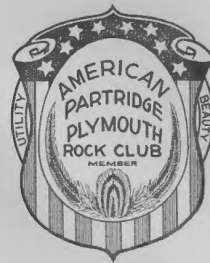
AVERILL PRESS, SANFORD, MAINE

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Partridge Plymouth Rock Guide Book

THE AMERICAN PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB

Organized March 2, 1931.



CLUB OFFICERS FOR 1931

PRESIDENT.....Joseph L. Hoelker, Oldenburg, Ind.
VICE-PRESIDENT.....Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, Iowa
SECRETARY-TREASURER.....Laurence C. Allen, Sanford, Maine
ELECTION COMMISSIONER.....Everett T. Lord, Sanford, Maine

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mack T. Marshall, Sevierville, Tenn.
R. LeRoy Armitage, Freeport, Ill.
Dr. Harry L. Chapman, Dover, N. H.
Henry J. Hunt, Madison, Wis.
Lewis H. Dean, Keene, N. H.
A. J. Staff, Hoquiam, Wash.
Otis E. Berry, Madison, Virginia (deceased)
H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.

CLUB CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

J. L. Hoelker—W. J. Pirie—L. C. Allen

GUIDE BOOK COMMITTEE

L. C. Allen—J. L. Hoelker—R. LeRoy Armitage



JOSEPH L. HOELKER
Oldenburg, Ind.
Club President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Club Members:

Am taking the opportunity through the medium of this Guide Book to thank all those Club Members who voted for me for President of the American Partridge Rock Club. I was indeed surprised to hear the news of my election and sincerely hope that the faith you have entrusted in me by your vote will not be found wanting.

It would have pleased me better had someone else been elected as chief executive; but realizing that our Partridge Rocks needed a new Club at once I gladly accepted the will of the majority in order that the organization of a new Club could go forward immediately.

The Club could have elected a better President than the one they did select, but I doubt whether they could find a better Secretary-Treasurer than Mr. L. C. Allen of Sanford, Maine. The Club should be congratulated for electing Mr. Allen to that important office. Without a doubt our pres-

ent Club could not have been organized as promptly had Mr. Allen not been elected; and its doubly sure that this wonderful and instructive Guide Book would not be in your hands today had he not been appointed as chairman of the Guide Book Committee. This book covers a long felt need for the advancement of Partridge Rock popularity, and all due credit for this noble work must go to Mr. Allen. He worked hard, patiently, and efficiently at his task; and it is to be hoped that his work will be greatly appreciated by all Partridge Rock breeders of the present and the future.

Fellow Club Members, never fail to boost your favorites. Exhibit them as often as possible; enter them at laying contests; give them publicity with advertisements, articles, and photos; and by all means don't forget that new member for the Club. Remember—a breed is no stronger than its Specialty Club.

Yours for more and better Partridge Plymouth Rocks, I am,

Sincerely,

JOSEPH L. HOELKER, Pres.



L. C. ALLEN
Sanford, Maine
Club Secretary-Treasurer

REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER

Fellow Partridge Rock Breeders:

As you know, The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club was organized between January 1st and March 2nd, 1931, the organization of the Club being completed on March 2nd, 1931.

Every Club member has put his and her shoulders to the wheel, and we certainly should feel gratified at our splendid membership and with the general Club progress so far accomplished. In the short space of eight months, the Club has acquired a membership of over fifty live-wire boosters; it has adopted a Constitution; it has published this long-needed Guide Book; it has chosen the Chicago Coliseum Poultry Exposition December 1-6, 1931 for its National Meet this year; a New England District Branch of the Club has been established and the Maine State Poultry Show at Portland, Maine December 8-11, 1931 has been chosen for the New England District Meet; it has chosen Plymouth Rock Monthly of Chicago as its official Monthly Club Magazine for 1931; plans are under way for a Partridge Rock Central States

Meet at the Iowa State Show, Des Moines, Iowa, December 30, January 2, 1932—and it has done these things in a period of severe depression and with annual dues at only one dollar per member. Official Club Ribbons are offered for Champion Male, Champion Female, and Champion Pen at Shows where five or more entries in each of those classes are shown by three or more Club Members.

Big things are ahead for Partridge Rocks, the Club, and every Club Member, because we are all doing our bit towards every job that confronts us.

Let us become well acquainted with our Club Constitution, and always bear in mind that our Board of Directors are doing their level best at all times to act for the best interest of the entire membership.

We should feel free to join in discussions and to offer constructive criticism in the Monthly Club Notes.

Have you secured a new Club Member yet? Have you written the Secretary how many entries you plan to make at the various Meets and what you will offer as prizes? Have you reported what you have for sale, so that inquiring customers may be advised? Do you carry an advertisement in the Monthly Club Magazine? Have you sent in any news items or an article on or a cut of Partridge Rocks? Do you reply promptly and fully on Club matters?

We all can help in many ways. Let's resolve to be thoughtful and helpful in all these things.

Your Guide Book Committee—J. L. Hoelker—Armitage—Allen—have willingly and freely labored. But we must remember there is no end to Club work if the Club is to progress properly.

The close of our first official Club year is not yet at hand. But, so far—financially speaking—the Club is just about holding its own without getting into debt. This really is remarkable, considering the “upwards of a two hundred dollars” expense in publishing this Guide Book, and the still very limited membership. A loyal booster has guaranteed expenses of the Guide Book project, but the paid advertisements have taken care of the bulk of the expenses and there certainly will be sufficient sales to make it self-sustaining, aside from the free copy to each Club Member. The current stationery, postage, etc., is being met by the regular dues. Watch the Monthly Club columns for detailed financial statement later.

It is hoped that a new Partridge Rock Guide Book may be published at least once every five years. Whenever you may feel inclined to criticize any Club official or some Club policy, please ask yourself first if the best interests of the majority members aren't really being aimed at. Friendly discussions are fine and often lead to better services and greater progress.

Let's get better acquainted with one another all the time, fellow-breeders, know our Partridges better, and rejoice in the outstanding “Beauty-Utility” merits of our favorite fowl.

Very sincerely,
LAURENCE C. ALLEN, Sec'y.-Treas.

OTIS E. BERRY

Otis E. Berry, a member of our Board of Directors from Madison, Virginia, died in August 1931. Mr. Berry had bred and raised Partridge Rocks for some fifteen years to his personal delight and benefit—as he wrote early in the summer. He was a loyal Partridge Rock booster. His family have the heartfelt sympathy of the entire Club.

J. W. HUNT

J. W. Hunt of Stoughton, Wisconsin, a devoted Partridge Rock booster for some thirty years, died October 14, 1931. Mr. Hunt was in his seventieth year and was the father of Henry J. Hunt, a member of our Board of Directors. Up to two years ago, Mr. Hunt had enjoyed fine health. His passing is a big loss to the club, and his family has the profound sympathy of all Partridge breeders at this time.



DR. W. J. PIRIE
Springville, Iowa
Club Vice-President



R. LEROY ARMITAGE
Freeport, Ill.
Loyal and Active Booster



MEMBERSHIP LIST

THE AMERICAN PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB

FLORIDA

Louis Reese, (Reese Hatchery), Limona
Mrs. Geo. V. Whigam, Route 1, Box 14, Lakeland

GEORGIA

W. J. Stoddard, Atlanta

ILLINOIS

R. LeRoy Armitage, 52 N. Mernitz Ave., Freeport
Albert Ecker, Woodworth P. O., Milford

INDIANA

A. M. Cornelius, Brookville
Joseph L. Hoelker, (Hoelker Bros.), Oldenburg
F. J. Hoelker, (Hoelker Bros.), Oldenburg
S. A. Noftzger, 575 Pike St., Wabash

IOWA

H. M. Beaver, Davenport
P. P. Black, West Liberty
Mrs. O. R. Dawson, Richland
Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville
S. F. Raff, Springville
Dr. H. W. Stonebrook, Eldora

MAINE

Laurence C. Allen (Beau-Site Farm), Sanford
Tom Barraclough, Sanford
Mrs. Amy G. Forrester, R. 7, Box 27, Gardiner
Everett T. Lord, Sanford
James Smith, Sanford
Mahlon Walsh, Freeport

MASSACHUSETTS

George H. Farr, East Templeton
Clarence A. Hager, 27 Silver Lake St., Athol
George H. Hendry, 10 Harold St., Mattapan
William N. Logan, R. F. D. 2, Box 32, Athol
Fritz Needer, 292 Page St., North Stoughton
Edward A. Letendre, 9 School St., Spencer

MICHIGAN

C. E. George, R. I. Union City
Fred Ritter, Lock Box 55, Concord

MISSOURI

William Crites, 541 S. Henderson St., Cape Girardeau
Dr. George E. Yallaly, Box 13, Cape Girardeau

NEW HAMPSHIRE

H. H. Burley, Keene
Dr. Harry L. Chapman, Dover
Lewis H. Dean, Keene

NEW JERSEY

Wilbur Dickemann, Box 93, Eatontown

NEW YORK

Delbert Dunham, Newark Valley
M. C. Willard, R. F. D. 2, Orchard Park

OHIO

D. M. Barcus, 150 Hall St., Tiffin
E. A. Hamann, 323 No. E. St., Hamilton
J. E. Jarvis, 160 S. Ohio St., Cadiz
S. P. Robertson, Martel
Thos. E. Thompson, R. D. I, Oxford

PENNSYLVANIA

Chas. E. Bird, (Bird Bros.), Meyersdale
C. M. Bird, (Bird Bros.), Meyersdale

RHODE ISLAND

Walter D. Briggs, 184 Spring St., East Greenwich

TENNESSEE

Mack T. Marshall, R. F. D., Sevierville

VIRGINIA

Otis E. Berry, Madison (deceased)

WASHINGTON

A. J. Staff, 2716 Queets Ave., Hoquiam

WISCONSIN

Henry J. Hunt, 2146 Keyes Ave., Madison
J. W. Hunt, R. F. D. 5, Stoughton (deceased)

CANADA

Thos. G. Kirving, 365 Belfast St., Medicine Hat, Alta

ENGLAND

Rev. Frederick H. Eva, Holcombe, near Bath

SOUTH AFRICA

D. E. Crompton, "Winic," Webber Rd., Germiston, Transvaal

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
AMERICAN PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB.
(Adopted September 12, 1931)

ARTICLE I—Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be "The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club."

ARTICLE II—Objects

Section 1. The objects of this Club shall be to foster the continual betterment and advancement of Partridge Plymouth Rocks as ideal general-purpose fowl, and to promote the welfare and progress of all breeders thereof.

ARTICLE III—Membership

Section 1. Any person of good character and reputation who resides in or is a citizen of the United States of America may become an active member of the Club and each active member shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of such membership, so long as he or she complies with the regulations incident thereto.

Section 2. Application for membership must be made in writing to the Secretary, and shall be subject to approval by an active member in good standing and to payment of dues.

Section 3. The annual dues shall be one dollar (\$1.00) per year, payable in advance on the first day of March in each year, or upon date of application in case it is after March 1st in any year; except that the annual dues for Associate Members (that is, members who reside in places outside of the United States of America) shall be one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) each, payable in advance.

Section 4. Active individual life membership fee shall be Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which sum shall not include any previous amount paid in as annual dues (life membership fees may be paid at the rate of Five dollars or more per year if desired), and all life membership payments shall remain in the Club as a separate and permanent Life Membership Club Fund, the Treasurer to invest said Life Membership Club Fund to yield a conservative and safe income, preferably in bank Savings Accounts, and only the income therefrom to be used yearly.

Section 5. Upon payment of dues, each member shall be supplied by the Secretary with a membership card entitling him to a year's free subscription to the official monthly Club Magazine, and to a free copy of the latest edition of the official Partridge Rock Guide Book, containing the Club Constitution, Membership List, latest Club reports, selected essays and articles, photographs, advertisements, etc.

Section 6. In recognition of distinguished services rendered the breed or Club Honorary Life Members may be elected by a three-fourths written ballot of all active members at any annual Club Meeting or at any Special ballot duly taken expressly for that purpose, motion therefor previously being made to the Secretary upon written request of any three active members.

- a. All Honorary Life Members shall be exempt from payment of dues, and shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by active members.

Section 7. Partridge Plymouth Rock breeders or admirers who reside in parts of the World other than in the United States of America may become Associate Members of the Club by complying with the Club regulations, and as such they shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of the Club except the right to hold office and the right to vote.

Section 8. Any member may resign by giving notice in writing to the Secretary, but no resignation need be accepted if such member is in arrears for dues or if there are any charges pending against him.

Section 9. Any member who is three months or more in arrears on dues shall be liable to suspension or expulsion from membership at the sound discretion of the Board of Directors by majority written ballot.

- a. If the delinquent member fails to pay his dues to date within ten days from the Secretary's third notification thereof, the Directors shall act in the matter upon verification from the Secretary.
- b. During suspension, the rights to vote, to hold office, and to compete for Club prizes shall be lost; and reinstatement shall be subject to payment of all arrears and to majority written vote of acceptance by the Board of Directors.
- c. Any member who is nine months or more in arrears on dues shall be automatically dropped from membership.

Section 10. Upon complaint in writing signed by three or more members specifically charging any member with conduct unbecoming a member, the Board of Directors by majority written ballot shall acquit, or suspend, or expel such member.

- a. During suspension, the rights to vote, to hold office, and to compete for Club prizes shall be lost; and reinstatement shall be subject to payment of all arrears and to majority written vote of acceptance by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV—Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Club shall be a President; Vice-President; Secretary-Treasurer; Board of Directors, nine in number, including the President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer; an Election Commissioner; a District Chairman and District Secretary in any particular part of the United States where there are fifteen or more members in three or more nearby States when any five of such members so request; a State Chairman and State Secretary in each State having five or more members when any five so request.

ARTICLE V—Election of Officers

Section 1. The election of all officers of this organization shall be by majority mail ballot, unless otherwise provided for by this Constitution, and shall be conducted under the direction and control of the Election Commissioner and of the Secretary.

Section 2. All officers shall be elected for the term of one year, and until their successors are elected and qualified, except that the Election Commissioner shall complete the tabulation of votes and report on the current election before his successor assumes office.

a. On the second Tuesday of January in each year, the Election Commissioner shall mail to each eligible Club Member at his last known address a printed nominating ballot blank, naming the offices to be filled; the nominating ballot to be returnable within fifteen days, the maximum return date to be specified on the blank, and to be signed by the member whose vote is represented by it.

Upon receiving and counting the nominating ballots received at 9 A. M., the morning following the said specified return date, the Election Commissioner shall promptly ascertain by mail who among those nominated are willing to stand for election, informing each candidate of the number of votes cast for each member nominated for that particular office. For each office to be filled, the three members who receive the highest number of votes of those who indicate a willingness to accept such office shall be the nominees.

Upon receiving this authority to announce formally the various successful nominees, the Election Commissioner shall, within fifteen days from the counting of the nominating ballots, mail printed election ballot blanks to all eligible Club Members, said blanks to be signed and returned within fifteen days, the maximum return date to be specified on the blank. The names and addresses of all candidates to be voted upon shall be printed upon the ballot together with instructions as to manner of

marking the ballot. The Election Commissioner shall officially count the election ballots at 9 A. M., the morning following the specified return date and the exact place of the counting shall be specified on the election ballots. Any Club Member or accredited representative thereof may be present in person to witness the counting of all ballots. No change may be made in any ballot once cast. The Election Commissioner shall send a complete itemized report of the results of the balloting promptly to the National Secretary, but shall retain a copy of the same himself for a year, and shall send the original ballots to the Secretary not later than March 1st in each year, and as much earlier as possible for safe keeping by the Secretary for a period of one year from March 1st in each year.

b. The election of District Chairmen and Secretaries and of State Chairmen and Secretaries shall be included in the official National Ballot Blanks, but each District and each State ballot shall be set apart from the National vote on the ballot blanks and only members in each respective District and each respective State shall vote on those parts of the ballot blanks, as shall be specifically pointed out on the ballot blanks.

c. Special elections in Districts and States for less than the full year term may be had when desired.

d. The Election Commissioner and the respective Secretaries, other officials and all members shall cooperate as fully as possible in facilitating the practical carrying out of all balloting.

Section 3. In case of a delay in sending out the ballots, it shall be done at the earliest possible date.

Section 4. In case of neglect or refusal of any Club official to carry out the necessary and vital duties of his office promptly and properly, a registered mail request to carry out such duties immediately shall be sent him by some Club official upon written complaint of any three members, or may be sent direct by any three members, and if the delinquency is not corrected within thirty days from said notice, the Board of Directors shall then act at once in the matter as they deem best.

Section 5. Upon written request of any three members, the Board of Directors shall carefully check up on the ballots cast at any Club election.

Section 6. Vacancies in National offices shall be filled by majority mail ballot of the Board of Directors; vacancies in District offices shall be filled by majority mail ballot of the respective District members; and vacancies in State offices shall be filled by majority mail ballot of the respective State members.

ARTICLE VI—Club Shows and Meetings

Section 1. The Annual National Club Show shall be chosen by majority mail ballot of all eligible members as early as practicable in each year.

Section 2. The Annual National Club Meeting shall be held at the Annual National Club Show at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon of the second day of the Show, unless a majority vote of all the Club members by mail ballot specifies a different time.

Section 3. Special Meetings of the Club shall be called upon written request of any five members, and shall take the form of mail balloting if so requested, and all eligible members shall be duly notified of the purpose and time of Special Meetings.

Section 4. The Secretary shall solicit inducements for the National Club Meet from various Show Associations and shall have the active cooperation of all Club Members in obtaining prizes and premiums for distribution at the Annual National Meet.

Section 5. The Club, through majority mail ballot of its Board of Directors, shall support and aid all Club Shows and boost Partridge Plymouth Rocks at other shows from an all-purpose standpoint as fully and as widely as possible within the scope of sound progress. All Club prizes and premiums shall be obtained and decided upon as early as possible before each Show, shall be announced as soon and as widely as possible before the Show, and be listed in the Premium Lists of the Club Shows.

Section 6. The Judge selected by the official Show Management at Club Meets shall serve, except where a clear majority vote of Club Members before any particular Meet provides differently.

Section 7. The Display rules of the official Show Association at Club Meets shall govern, except where a clear majority vote of Club Members before any particular Meet provides differently.

Section 8. District Shows and Meetings shall be held under the supervision of the respective District members where District Branches are organized (that is, in any particular part of the United States where there are fifteen or more members in three or more nearby States and any five of whom have requested an election by majority mail ballot of the members in that region, which they expressly designate, of an official District Chairman and District Secretary).

Section 9. State Shows and Meetings shall be held under the supervision of the respective State members where State Branches are organized (that is, where there are five or more members in any State who have elected by majority mail ballot an official State Chairman and State Secretary).

Section 10. Official Club prizes shall be open to competition by Club Members only.

ARTICLE VII—Committees and Publications

Section 1. Committees may be chosen by majority mail ballot of the Board of Directors to conduct and perform any particular matters or projects for which they are specifically chosen.

Section 2. At the time of the Annual Election of Officers an official Monthly Club Magazine shall be chosen by majority mail ballot of the members, and the Secretary-Treasurer shall expend not over fifty cents per member annually for a free subscription to each member, except that for free subscriptions to Associate Members who live outside the boundaries of the United States an extra allowance may be made in the sound discretion of the Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 3. A Partridge Rock Guide Book shall be published once every five years or oftener under the direction and supervision of a Guide Book Committee of three members to be chosen by majority mail ballot of the Board of Directors, except that one member of this Committee shall be the National Secretary-Treasurer as a matter of course (*ex officio*). Each edition of the Guide Book shall contain the up-to-date Membership List; a copy of the latest revision of the Club Constitution and By-Laws; the last annual reports of officers; selected essays and articles by members and breeders; Club Show Reports; photographs of breeders, birds, etc.; advertisements; and other items of interest. The expenses of the publication may be defrayed by subscription or by paid advertisements, but in such a way that each member shall receive one copy free.

ARTICLE VIII—Quorums

Section 1. Five members of the Club present and voting shall constitute a quorum, except that where a mail ballot is required a majority of all eligible members is necessary.

Section 2. A majority of the board of Directors shall be required at all times to constitute a quorum whether in assembly or by mail ballot.

Section 3. For the purpose of District or State business, five members from each respective District or each respective State present and voting shall constitute a quorum in each respective District and each respective State, except that in a mail ballot a majority of the members in each respective District or each respective State shall be required.

Section 4. The three preceding sections are subject to restrictions or limitations embodied in any other parts of this Constitution.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I—Duties of Officers

Section 1. President—The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and appoint an official representative in case neither he nor the Vice-President are able to be present; act as Chairman of the Board of Directors; appoint temporary officers or committees in emergencies; call special meetings of the Club or of the Board of Directors within thirty days of written request of any five members; and perform such other duties as pertain to the office.

Section 2. Vice-President—In the absence of the President or in case of his inability to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President.

Section 3. Secretary-Treasurer—The Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the general correspondence of the Club; he shall have charge of all Club property; he shall act as Secretary of the Board of Directors; he shall prepare and distribute all notices of meetings and keep minutes of all meetings; he shall furnish membership cards to all paid-up members; furnish Club literature, etc.; send regular monthly reports to the official Club Magazine for publication; at the proper time he shall furnish the Election Commissioner with nomination and election ballots, together with the latest list of paid-up members; he shall collect all money payable to the Club; pay all just Club bills; and keep an accurate account of the same; he shall submit an itemized, written report of the financial condition of the Club and submit a detailed report of the year's activities at the time of the annual meeting, both of which reports shall be published in the Club Magazine. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer shall be held by the same individual. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be paid a salary equal to ten per cent of the annual membership dues received during the fiscal year for which he is elected, but this percentage shall not apply to life membership fees or payments, rather only to the annual income from the Life Membership Fund and to dues from annual memberships; he shall keep on file a copy of all Club records and publications as Club property.

Section 4. Board of Directors—The Board of Directors shall have general control and supervision of the affairs of the Club, acting always by majority ballot.

Section 5. Election Commissioner—The Election Commissioner shall conduct the annual election of officers as specified in Article V of this Constitution. His necessary postage and stationery expenses shall be paid out of the Club Treasury.

ARTICLE II--Order of Business

Section 1. The order of business at all meetings of the Club shall be as follows:

1. Roll Call.
2. Reading of Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Reports of officers.
4. Unfinished business.
5. New business.
6. Discussions.
7. Adjournment.

ARTICLE III--Amendments.

Section 1. This Constitution and these By-Laws may be altered or amended by a three-fourths mail ballot of all eligible members at the annual meeting, or by the same vote at a special meeting called for that purpose, upon request of any three members and upon thirty days' advance notice of the same specifically given each member by the Secretary.

Most of these love triangles turn into wrecktangles.

—Boston Transcript.

If some people lived up to their ideals they would be stooping.

—South Bend Tribune.

My wife drives the car in an advisory capacity.

—College Humor.

I'd marry if I was sure I wouldn't get used to it.—Life.

Some people make the world; the rest just come along and live in it.

—Dean Robert Russell Wicks.

If you can't be great, you can be useful which is greater.

—Boston Herald.

It's a good thing to have money and the things that money can buy, but it is also a good thing to be able to look back and know you haven't lost some of the things that money cannot buy.

—George Horace Lorimer.

SOME NOTABLE PARTRIDGE ROCK EXHIBITS

BOSTON POULTRY SHOW, Boston, Mass.

December 28-January 1, 1927.

J. H. Drevenstedt, Judge, Northport, N. Y.

Entries: 80 Partridge Rocks; 10 Cocks; 12 Hens; 16 Cockerels; 17 Pullets; 3 Old Pens; 2 Young Pens; Fifteen exhibitors from twelve states.

Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, Iowa: 1st Cock, 2nd Hen, 1st and 2nd Cockerel, 4th Pullet.

Allport Poultry Farm, Asheville, N. C.: 2nd Cock, 5th Hen, 2nd Old Pen.

Mack T. Marshall, Sevierville, Tenn.: 3rd and 5th Cockerel, 5th and 6th Pullet, 1st Old Pen.

J. H. Webster, Hamburg, N. Y.: 3rd Cock, 1st Hen.

S. F. Raff, Springville, Iowa.: 5th Cock, 6th Cockerel, 1st Pullet.

Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine: 6th Cock, 6th Hen, 1st Young Pen.

Jessie E. Carlton, Williamstown, Vt.: 3rd Hen, 2nd Pullet.

L. H. Dean, Keene, N. H.: 2nd Young Pen.

Levi Buck, Pontiac, Mich.: 4th Cock.

Hoelker Bros., Oldenburg, Ind.: 4th Cockerel, 3rd Pullet.

H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.: 4th Hen.

IOWA STATE POULTRY SHOW, Iowa City, Iowa

December 28, 1927-January 1, 1928

Harry Atkins, Judge, Davenport, Iowa. 119 Birds; 21 Cocks; 20 Hens; 17 Cockerels; 16 Pullets; 5 Old Pens; 4 Young Pens; 11 exhibitors.

Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, Iowa: 1, 3, 7 Cock; 1, 5, 9 Hen; 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, Cockerel; 3, 9 Pullet; 1, Old Pen; 2, 3 Young Pen, Best Partridge Rock Display and Grand Champion Display of entire Show.

Kellogg & Kellogg, Cambridge, Ill.: 2 Cock; 3, 4 Hen; 1, 2 Pullet; 3 Old Pen.

S. F. Raff, Springville, Iowa: 6, 8, 9 Cock; 7, 10 Hen; 3, 4 Cockerel; 4, 6, 7 Pullet; 2 Old Pen; 1 Young Pen.

Leroy Armitage, Elizabeth, Ill.: 10 Cockerel; 5 Pullet; 4 Young Pen.

Thos. G. Kinvig, Medicine Hat, Alta, Canada: 10 Cock; 6 Hen; 8 Pullet.

Laurence C. Allen, Sanford, Maine: 8 Hen; 9 Cockerel.

Hoelker Bros., Oldenburg, Ind.: 4 Cock.

Levi Buck, Pontiac, Mich.: 2 Hen.

Ray Finders, Ferguson, Ia.: 8 Cockerel; 10 Pullet.

Geo. Blum: 5 Cock.

CHICAGO COLISEUM POULTRY EXPOSITION, Chicago, Ill.

1929

43 Birds entered; 4 Cocks; 6 Hens; 7 Cockerels; 6 Pullets; 2 Old Pens; 2 Young Pens; 4 exhibitors.

Bird Bros., Meyersdale, Pa.: 1, 2, 3 and 4th Cock; 1, 2, 3 and 4th Hen; 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5th Cockerel; 1st Old Pen; 1st Young Pen; 1, 2, 3, and 5th Pullet.

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.: 5th Hen; 2nd Old Pen; 2nd Young Pen.

H. D. Marx, Mt. Carmel, Ill.: 4th Pullet.

CHICAGO COLISEUM POULTRY EXPOSITION, Chicago, Ill.

December 3-7, 1930.

Walter C. Young, Judge, Dayton, Ohio.

34 birds entered; five exhibitors; 5 Cocks; 5 Hens; 9 Cockerels; 7 Pullets; 1 Old Pen; 1 Young Pen.

Bird Bros., Meyersdale, Pa.: 1, 2 and 4th Cock; 1, 2, 3 and 4th Hen; 1, 2 and 3rd Cockerel; 1, 2, 3 and 5th Pullet; 1st Old Pen; 1st Young Pen.

S. F. Raff, Springville, Iowa: 3rd Cock; 4th Pullet.

Hoelker Bros., Oldenburg, Ind.: 4th and 5th Cockerel.

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, New York City

January 16-20, 1929

H. P. Schwab, Rochester, N. Y., Judge. Seven exhibitors; 53 birds entered; 7 Cocks; 8 Hens; 11 Cockerels; 7 Pullets; 2 Old Pens; 2 Young Pens.

Bird Bros., Meyersdale, Pa.: 1, 2 and 4th Cock; 1, 3, 4 and 5th Hen; 1, 2, 4 and 5th Cockerel; 1, 3, 4 and 5th Pullet; 1st Old Pen; 1st Young Pen.

Levi Buck, Pontiac, Mich.: 2nd Hen; 2nd Pullet.

Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, Iowa; 3rd Cockerel.

R. LeRoy Armitage, Elizabeth, Ill.: 3rd Cock; 2nd Old Pen; 2nd Young Pen.

Kellogg & Kellogg, Cambridge, Ill.: 3rd Hen; 5th Pullet.

Allport Poultry Farm, Asheville, N. C.: 5th Cock.

MILWAUKEE POULTRY SHOW, Milwaukee, Wis.

January 1-5, 1930.

John Kriner, Judge, Stetlersville, Pa.: 54 Birds entered; 8 exhibitors; 6 Cocks; 14 Hens; 9 Cockerels; 7 Pullets; 3 Old Trios; 3 Young Trios.

R. L. Armitage, Elizabeth, Ill.: 2, 4, and 5th Cock; 1, 2, 4, and 5th Hen; 1, and 4th Cockerel; 4, and 5th Pullet; 2nd and 3rd Old Trio; 2nd and 3rd Young Trio.

Hoelker Bros., Oldenburg, Ind.: 1st Cock; 2nd and 3rd Cockerel; 1st Pullet; 1st Young Trio.

Wm. N. Logan, Athol, Mass.: 3rd Hen; 3rd Pullet; 1st Old Trio.

Beau-Site Farm, Sanford, Maine: 2nd Pullet.

Dr. H. L. Chapman, Dover, N. H.: 5th Cockerel.

PITTSBURGH POULTRY SHOW, Pittsburgh, Pa.

January 26-31, 1931.

F. A. Poertner, Judge, Berea, Ohio. Three exhibitors; 18 Birds entered; 3 Cocks; 4 Hens; 3 Cockerels; 2 Pullets; 1 Old Trio; 1 Young Trio.

R. LeRoy Armitage, Elizabeth, Ill.: 3rd Cock; 2, 3, and 4th Hen; 2nd and 3rd Cockerel; 1st and 2nd Pullet; 1st Old Trio; 1st Young Trio.

Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine: 1st Cock; 1st Hen.

Hoelker Bros., Oldenburg, Ind.: 2nd Cock; 1st Cockerel.

SOME FAMOUS NEW ENGLAND MEETS

MARLBORO POULTRY SHOW, Keene, N. H.

December 1-3, 1926.

J. H. Woodward, Judge, Tyngsboro, Mass. 91 Birds entered; 7 exhibitors; 6 Cocks; 12 Cockerels; 11 Hens; 17 Pullets; 5 Old Pens; 4 Young Pens.

H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.: 4th Cock; 2nd Cockerel; 1st and 4th Hen; 1st Young Pen.

W. H. Logan, Athol, Mass.: 2nd Cock; 1st and 3rd Cockerel; 2nd Old Pen; 3rd Young Pen.

L. C. Allen, Sanford, Maine: 3rd Cock; 2nd Hen; 2nd and 5th Pullet; 4th Young Pen.

A. S. Heaton, Keene, N. H.: 1st Cock, Shape Special Champion Male.

F. A. Russell, Keene, N. H.: 6th Cockerel; 3rd and 5th Hen; 3rd Old Pen.

L. H. Dean, Keene, N. H.: 5th Cock; 6th Hen; 4th and 6th Pullet; 4th Old Pen; 2nd Young Pen.

P. F. Wilcox, Keene, N. H.: 5th Cockerel; 1st Old Pen.

MAINE STATE POULTRY SHOW, Portland, Maine.

December 13-16, 1927.

J. H. Drevenstedt, Judge, Northport, N. Y.; 15 exhibitors; 122 birds entered; 9 Cocks; 17 Hens; 18 Cockerels; 23 Pullets; 5 Old Pens; 6 Young Pens.

Wm. N. Logan, Athol, Mass.: 2nd Cock, 2nd, 3rd Shape Special Hen; 1st and Color Special Pullet; 2nd Old Pen; 2nd Young Pen; Best Display with 21 points.

Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine: 3rd and 4th Cock; 5th and 6th Hen; 2nd Cockerel; 4th and 5th Pullet; 1st Old Pen; 4th and 5th Young Pen; Second Best Display with 20 points.

H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.: 4th Hen; 3rd Pullet; 3rd Young Pen.

W. F. Worcester, Old Orchard, Maine: 3rd Old Pen.

A. S. Heaton, Keene, N. H.: Cock, Shape Special, Champion Male.

Oakdale Poultry Yards, Sanford, Maine: 5th Cock; 4th Old Pen.

Fred A. Russell, Keene, N. H.: 6th Cock; 3rd Cockerel.

A. J. Keniston, Carmel, Maine: 1st Hen, Best Colored Hen.

J. A. Southwick & Son, Blackstone, Mass.: 1st Cockerel, Color Special.

Everett T. Lord, Sanford, Maine: 4th Cockerel; 6th Pullet; 6th Young Pen.

Perley F. Wilcox, Keene, N. H.: 5th and 6th Cockerel; 2nd Pullet.

Lewis H. Dean, Keene, N. H.: 1st Young Pen, Champion Pen.

Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, Iowa, was unable to send his entries due to a severe blizzard.

ATHOL POULTRY SHOW, Athol, Mass.

December 20-21, 1928.

F. G. Cook, Judge, Waltham, Mass. 19 exhibitors from 7 states. 143 Birds entered; 13 Cocks; 21 Hens; 21 Cockerels; 23 Pullets; 7 Old Pens; 6 Young Pens.

Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, Iowa: 5th Cock; 1st Hen, Champion Female, Best Colored Hen, Best Colored Female, Best Pencilled Female; 2nd Cockerel; 1st Pullet; 2nd Old Pen; Best Display with 25 points.

Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop, Sanford, Maine: 3rd, 4th and 10th Cock; 3rd Hen, Best Shaped Female, 6th, and 9th Hen; 1st and 4th Cockerel; 2nd, 8th, and 10th Pullet; 3rd Old Pen; 2nd, and 4th Young Pen; 2nd and 3rd Utility Pen; Second Best Display with 24 points.

Wm. N. Logan, Athol, Mass.: 9th Cock; 2nd, and 4th Hen; 9th Cockerel; 1st Old Pen; 1st Young Pen; 1st, and 4th Utility Pen.

H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.: 2nd Cock; 7th, and 8th Hen; 5th Cockerel, Best Shaped Male; 3rd Pullet; 5th Young Pen.

Thomas J. Sullivan, Athol, Mass.: 7th Cock; 10th Cockerel; 3rd Young Pen.

Perley F. Wilcox, Keene, N. H.: 8th Cock; 5th Old Pen.

A. S. Heaton, Keene, N. H.: 1st Cock, Champion Male, Best Colored Male, Best Bird Shown; 6th Old Pen.

Sam Raff, Springville, Iowa: 7th Cockerel.

Herbert W. Seymour, West Upton, Mass.: 6th Cockerel.

Tom Barraclough, Sanford, Maine: 6th Cock.

James Smith, Sanford, Maine: 10th Hen.

Edward W. Towne, Waterbury, Vt.: 4th, and 6th Pullet.

George H. Farr, East Templeton, Mass.: 5th Hen.

L. H. Dean, Keene, N. H.: 4th Old Pen.

C. A. Hager, Athol, Mass.: 3rd Cockerel; 7th and 9th Pullet.

W. H. Burgess, Minot Corner, Me.: 5th Pullet.

PROVIDENCE POULTRY SHOW, Providence, R. I.

November 14-17, 1929.

J. H. Woodward, Judge, Tyngsboro, Mass. 113 Birds entered; 10 Cocks; 17 Hens; 15 Cockerels; 26 Pullets; 4 Old Pens; 5 Young Pens.

Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine: 1st Cock; 3rd, 4th, and 5th Hen; 7th and 9th Cockerel; 1st and Shape Special Female on Pullet, also 7th, 8th, and 10th Pullet; 3rd Old Pen, 2nd and 5th Young Pen, Best Display.

Wm. N. Logan, Athol, Mass.: 2nd Cock; 1st Hen, Best Colored and Best Pencilled Female and Champion Female; 1st Cockerel, Champion Male, Best Shaped Male and Grand Champion Bird; 2nd and 4th Pullet; 2nd Old Pen. Mr. Logan's entry was incomplete for Display rules.

A. S. Heaton, Keene, N. H.: 3rd and 7th Cock; 3rd and 5th Cockerel; 1st Old Pen; 1st Young Pen; 1st and 2nd Utility Pen.

Dr. Harry L. Chapman, Dover, N. H.: 9th Cock; 7th and 10th Hen; 2nd Cockerel, Best Colored Male, and 10th Cockerel; 3rd Pullet; 4th Young Pen.

H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.: 4th and 10th Cock; 2nd and 6th Hen; 8th Cockerel; 4th Old Pen.

L. H. Dean, Keene, N. H.: 8th Cock; 4th Cockerel; 6th Pullet; 3rd Young Pen.

F. A. Russell, Keene, N. H.: 6th Cock; 6th Cockerel; 5th Pullet.

H. W. Seymour, West Upton, Mass.: 5th Cock; 8th and 9th Hen.

C. A. Hager, Athol, Mass.: 9th Pullet.

MAINE STATE POULTRY SHOW, Portland, Maine

December 9-12, 1930.

Charles McClave, Judge, New London, Ohio. 62 birds entered; 8 Cocks; 12 Hens; 12 Cockerels; 10 Pullets; 1 Old Pen; 3 Young Pens.

Dr. Harry L. Chapman, Dover, N. H.: 3rd Cock; 2nd Hen; 1st Cockerel; and 5th Cockerel; 3rd and 7th Pullet; 1st Young Pen. Best Display with 25 points.

Beau-Site Farm, Sanford, Maine: 1st Cock, Shape and Color Specials, Champion Male and Grand Champion Bird; also 5th Cock; 1st Hen, Color Special and Best Pencilled Female, Champion Female; also 3rd and 8th Hen; 2nd, 4th and 8th Pullet; Shape Special Female on a hen from the 1st Old Pen; 1st Old Pen, Champion Pen; 2nd Young Pen. Second Best Display with 24 points.

Mahlon Walsh, Freeport, Maine: 6th and 7th Cock; 3rd, 6th, 7th and 8th Cockerel; 5th and 6th Pullet; 3rd Young Pen.

S. F. Raff, Springfield, Iowa: 4th Cock; 5th Hen; 4th Cockerel; 1st Pullet.

Tom Barroclough, Sanford, Maine: 2nd Cock; 4th and 6th Hen.

H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.: 7th Hen; 2nd Cockerel.

Hoelker Bros., Oldenburg, Ind.: Made entries, but unable to send them.

NEW YORK STATE FAIR, Syracuse, N. Y.

September 7-12, 1931.

Chas. D. Cleveland, Judge, Eatontown, N. J. 29 birds; 2 Cocks; 8 Hens; 3 Cockerels; 4 Pullets; 2 Old Trios; 2 Young Trios.

Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine: 2nd Cock; 1st and 2nd Hen; 1st Cockerel; 1st and 2nd Pullet; 1st Old Trio. Best Display.

Elm Farm, Blackstone, Mass.: 1st Cock; 5th Hen; 2nd and 3rd Cockerel; 3rd and 4th Pullet; 1st and 2nd Young Trio.

August J. Salenske, 412 Turtle St., Syracuse, N. Y.: 3rd and 4th Hen; 2nd Old Trio.

IOWA STATE FAIR, Des Moines, Iowa.

August 26-September 4, 1931

W. J. Coffin & Son: 1, 2 Cock; 1, 2, 4 Hen; 1 Cockerel; 1, 2 Pullet.

Carl Woody: 3 Cock.

H. W. Stonebrook, Eldora, Iowa: 3, 5 Hen.

S. J. Fillman: 2 Cockerel.

Murray McMurray: 3, 5 Pullet; 1 Young Pen; 1 Old Pen.

Mrs. O. R. Dawson, Richland, Iowa: 4 Pullet; 2 Young Pen.

IMPORTANT

Send your Secretary names and addresses of all exhibitors who are not yet Club Members.

1931 CLUB MEETS

ANNUAL NATIONAL CLUB MEET

at

CHICAGO COLISEUM POULTRY EXPOSITION,

Dec. 1 to 6, 1931.

(Tuesday to Sunday Inclusive)

Harry Atkins, Judge, Davenport, Iowa.

Annual Meeting in Partridge Rock aisle at 2:30 P. M., Wednesday, December 2nd. Special Prizes offered by the Show Association for 50 to 74 entries: \$35.00 cash, medals, trophies, etc.: and increased as the entries increase.

Through the Club valuable prizes will be awarded for Best Colored Male; Best Colored Female; Best Shaped Male; Best Shaped Female; Best Striped Male; Best Pencilled Female.

The Club also offers its official Club Ribbons for Champion Male; Champion Female; and Champion Pen, provided five or more entries in each of those classes are shown by three or more Club Members.

Bird Bros., Meyersdale, Pa., guarantee the cost of one of the Plaques described in the Coliseum Premium List for Best Display, provided there are two or more displays entered.

Hoelker Bros., Oldenburg, Ind., offer one setting of their Best Eggs, value \$10.00, for Champion Bird (Donor not to compete).

Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine, offers one setting of its Best Eggs, value \$10.00 for the Champion Pen (Donor not to compete).

Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, Iowa, offers a \$10.00 setting of eggs for the best exhibit East of Chicago.

George H. Farr, East Templeton, Mass., offers a setting of his Best Eggs, value \$7.00, to winner of Second Best Display (Donor not to compete).

Henry J. Hunt, Madison, Wis., offers one setting of eggs, value \$5.00 to the exhibitor shipping the longest distance to the Show.

Dr. H. W. Stonebrook, Eldora, Iowa, offers \$2.00 cash to the lady making the Best Exhibit.

H. M. Beaver, Davenport, Iowa, offers \$2.00 cash for Fifth Young Pen.

ON TO CHICAGO—send at least one entry, anyway.

Entries close November 10th. Harvey C. Wood is the energetic Show Secretary-Manager, Room 1900, Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Ill.



Group of Partridge Plymouth Rock breeders at the Maine State Show, on Dec. 14, 1927 for the New England District Partridge Rock Meet. Left to right—E. T. Lord, Sanford, Me.; J. Smith, Sanford, Me.; J. E. Southwick, Blackstone, Mass.; P. F. Wilcox, Keene, N. H.; F. A. Russell, Keene, N. H.; S. A. Heaton, Keene, N. H.; W. N. Logan, Athol, Mass.; W. F. Worcester, Old Orchard, Me.; T. Barraclough, Sanford, Me.; Judge J. H. Drevenstedt, Northport, N. Y.; C. E. Vallely, Sanford, Me.; A. J. Keniston, Carmel, Me. Seated—L. C. Allen, Sanford, Me.; H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT MEET

at

MAINE STATE POULTRY SHOW, PORTLAND, MAINE

December 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1931.

Exposition Building

Maurice F. Delano, Judge, Dedham, Mass.

District Meeting in Partridge Rock aisle,

Wednesday, December 9th, 2:30 P. M.

Chester T. Adams, 106 Ocean Ave., Woodfords, Maine, is Secretary of Show.

H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H., District Chairman.

L. C. Allen, Sanford, Maine, District Secretary.

CENTRAL DISTRICT MEET

at

IOWA STATE SHOW, DES MOINES, IOWA

December 30, 31, January 1, 2, 1932.

Wm. A. Hoos, Secretary of Show,

2016 Harding Road, Des Moines, Iowa.

TRY OUR NEW HAMPSHIRE

Partridge Rocks

Strong in Quality

Potent in Usefulness

Dr. Harry L. Chapman

DOVER, N. H.

GROUP OF PARTRIDGE ROCK BREEDERS
AT THE NEW ENGLAND MEET AT
ATHOL, MASS., Dec. 20-21, 1928.



Standing left to right: Leonard Wilcox, Keene, N. H.; A. S. Heaton, Keene, N. H.; P. F. Wilcox, Keene, N. H.; E. T. Lord, Sanford, Me.; L. C. Allen, Sanford, Me.; James Smith, Sanford, Me.; L. H. Dean, Keene, N. H.; Charles Dean, Keene, N. H.

Seated left to right: C. A. Hager, Athol, Mass.; H. H. Burley, Keene, N. H.; F. G. Cook, Judge, Waltham, Mass.; F. A. Russell, Keene, N. H.

THE ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF PARTRIDGE ROCKS

THIS HANDSOME AND POPULAR VARIETY HAS ADVANCED VERY
RAPIDLY DUE TO CAREFUL AND SCIENTIFIC BREEDING

Upon seeing a pen of Partridge Plymouth Rocks for the first time, the on-looker, after remarking about the marvelous beauty of the birds, invariably asks these two questions: "How were they derived? Are they good layers?"

A full analysis of the origin of Partridge Rocks reveals the fact that this variety of the Plymouth Rock breed of poultry carries the potential egg-laying capacity of the Hamburg and Leghorn and the superior meat qualities of the Cochin and Indian Game or Dark Cornish in its ancestry. Now let us enter upon an extensive study of the subject of the origin and history of this fine, all-purpose fowl.

As stated in the Plymouth Rock Breed book, published by the American Poultry Association in 1919 and 1921, page 266: "It is always difficult to say just who was the first to begin the development of any breed, for in nearly all instances several breeders are imbued with an idea at about the same time. Only a few months or, at the most, a year or two separates them at the starting point. It takes several years to attract popular attention, and by that time a matter of a year or two in priority is difficult to determine. After the advent of the Partridge Wyandotte, it was but natural that a Partridge Plymouth Rock should suggest itself to a number of fanciers, and that is what occurred; the desire for a fowl with the graceful lines of the Plymouth Rock and the beautiful Partridge Cochin plumage, but one without clumsy feathered legs. The various pioneer breeders of Partridge Rocks all used a great preponderance of Partridge Cochin blood in building their respective strains. Each of them also used a small admixture of most of the following: Golden Pencilled Hamburg, Golden Laced Wyandotte, (Single Comb Sports), Single Comb Brown Leghorn, Indian Game (Dark Cornish), and Partridge Wyandotte, (single comb Sports). Partridge Cochin 11-16, Golden Pencilled Hamburg 1-16, Golden Laced Wyandotte, (single comb Sports) 1-16 Single Comb Brown Leghorn 1-16th, Indian Game (Dark Cornish) 1-16th, Partridge Wyandotte (single comb Sports) 1-16th. Before relating the accounts of each respective pioneer breeder of Partridge Plymouth Rocks, let us first gain some idea of the history and make-up of these aforementioned derivative breeds.

The American Poultry Journal Pub. Co., of Chicago, in 1908 issued a book entitled "Origin and History of All Breeds of Poultry," in which the following data appears and substantiated by the Encyclopaedia Britannica and other historical publications: The Cochin China or Shanghais fowl was discovered in China about 1845, being the common fowl brought there by seamen and bred at random. These Cochins were of black, grouse, black-red and brown color, and carried both single and pea combs. The Cochins or Shanghais often did not have feathered legs, it seems though most Cochins did, and all now do in the United States. It is of considerable interest to note that the Cochin Chinas of red and reddish brown hues served as foundation stock also for the Rhode Island Reds. Unfortunately no further data concerning the origin of the Partridge Cochin seems to be available. The Golden Pencilled Hamburg was developed in England, the earlier Hamburgs having previously come from Holland. The Golden Laced Wyandotte was derived from an admixture of Rose Comb Brown Leghorns, Pea

Comb Partridge Cochin, Buff Cochins, and Golden Sebrights. The Brown Leghorn was a common fowl of Italy and originated there. The Indian Game or Dark Cornish was derived chiefly from the ancient Aseels of India. The Partridge Wyandottes were originated from a mixture of Partridge Cochin, Golden Wyandottes and Golden Pencilled Hamburg. There appears to be an historical dispute as to whether the Cochin Chinas and Shanghais should be regarded as identical or whether they should be distinguished in regard to the legs of the Shanghais being heavily feathered and those of the Cochin Chinas being unfeathered. It is a lamentable fact that a detailed account of, or even definite data of, the origin of the Cochin, as well as some other fowls, is not available. Since these ancient Cochin Chinas or Shanghais were discovered in various distinct colors and were bred at random, it is probable that natural breeding only (not selective) had taken place up to about 1845.

We are, of course, interested to learn that naturalists, historians and breeders generally concede that the wild Bankiva Jungle fowl of India is the original foundation stock of all domesticated breeds of poultry. The natural red, brown, and black colors of the Bankiva readily convince breeders of Partridge colored fowl that the Bankiva was, at least, the original ancestor of this variety. The passage of time may lessen our interest in some details, but now that we find the wild Bankiva generally acclaimed the progenitor of all domestic fowl, we naturally become inquisitive as to the origin of the wild fowl. In the April 1927 issue of The National Geographic Magazine, published in Washington, D. C., Dr. M. A. Jull, chief poultry husbandman in the United States department of Agriculture, submits a most thorough and interesting article on "The Races of Domestic Poultry." Therein Dr. Jull points out that at least one hundred and fifty million years ago the first wild fowl of any definite record had its beginning in an ancient winged creature about the size of a crow, called the Archaeopteryx, and having teeth. He states that the teeth of the earliest known birds have disappeared and many structural changes have taken place, until today there are species especially adapted to flying, running, burrowing, swimming or diving. "Think of the great difference," he remarks, "between the ostrich and the mallard duck, or the eagle and the humming bird. However different these forms may be, they all have one thing in common, the presence of feathers." Dr. Jull stresses the point that the wild fowl has been shown to be closely related to the pheasant, both having similar traits. It seems that the pheasants are sub-divided into families according to the way in which the tail-feathers molt. Dr. Jull states that in the fowl the tail molt is centripetal (feathers molt from the outside to the center). He says there are several different pheasants in this sub-families, but that the fowl is the only pheasant with a fleshy comb, so that it is placed in a genus called Gallus, meaning a comb. The Gallus outside to the center). He says there are several different pheasants in these wild fowl from which all domestic breeds became derived. The domestica-

tion of the cock in China, it seems, dates back as far as 1400 B. C. It seems only a short step from the wild Red Jungle fowl (*Gallus Bankiva*) of India to the Cochin China or Shanghais which were carried by seamen to China, and then the gradual transformation into Partridge Plymouth Rocks, with the admixture of small quantities of the following: Golden Pencilled Hamburg, Golden Laced Wyandotte (Single Comb Sports), Single Comb Brown Leghorn, Indian Game or Dark Cornish, and Partridge Wyandottes (Single Comb Sports) with the Partridge Cochin foundation.

In relating the actual process of the origination and development of Partridge Plymouth Rocks, the writer has concluded to follow the course adopted by J. H. Drevenstedt, in chapter VII of "The Plymouth Rocks," a Plymouth Rock book published jointly by the American Publishing Co., of Buffalo, N. Y., and the Reliable Poultry Journal Pub. Co., now of Dayton, Ohio, by submitting the exact and full accounts as given by the earliest Partridge Rock breeders themselves.

S. A. Noftzger, the veteran breeder of North Manchester, Indiana, is one of the pioneers in breeding Partridge Plymouth Rocks, and he claims to be the originator of this variety. In 1909 Mr. Noftzger wrote the following article concerning how he originated and developed Partridge Rocks:

"When the English, or full feathered, Cochin was introduced into this country it pushed aside many very fine specimens of the different breeds of the Cochin family. For a time, in the show room, the American type of Cochins, with scanty leg feathering competed in separate classes but soon their classes were dropped and the massive Cochin was king. The Americans had succeeded in breeding the most beautiful Partridge color in the world, and then allowed their English cousins to push the Cochin family down the ladder of popularity by accepting the massive feathering at the cost of general utility and beautiful color.

"For years I had bred Partridge Cochins, and on the first day of April, 1896, a Cochin hen hatched twelve chicks for me, four cockerels and eight pullets, which weighed just 100 pounds the 18th day of December following. They were wonderfully good in color and fine general purpose fowls, but were the scanty feathered American Cochins. One of these females, "Georgine," laid 27 eggs in 28 consecutive days and as egg machines they had few equals.

"However, in the show room at Indianapolis, Judge Tucker cut them from 2 to 2½ points on leg and toe shape, putting them entirely out of the running. It was the question 'What can be done with the beautiful American Partridge Cochin?' that caused me to lay the foundation for a new breed of chickens.

"With the advent of the English Cochin something had to be done with these beautiful scanty-feathered fowls. Either they must be crossed with their English cousins, to improve the English color and make the American feathering more massive, or sent to market. Securing fowls of the Eng-

lish type I crossed them with my American Cochins and by careful selection succeeded in perfecting a strain of Partridge Cochins sufficient to win at the very largest shows from the Atlantic to the Pacific. These fowls possessed the wonderful American color and the massive English feathering.

"But could they not be bred in the opposite direction to produce a new breed to rival the best of fancy poultry? I decided to make the effort and consequently in 1898 began the long task of producing a new fowl with almost nothing of the ideal to begin with. While the work has been pleasant, because of an innate love for poultry and enjoyment of nature, yet it has been arduous and at times discouraging. Arduous, because it required much care and watchfulness, as from the beginning each hen's eggs were saved and hatched separately, and close application for new angles were constantly springing up. Discouraging because just when victory was seemingly won, some new objection would confront me, and several times I was at the point of giving up my work as a failure. All this time I continued the breeding of my 'first love'—Partridge Cochins—and only discontinued the breeding of them in 1907, when I became convinced that the Partridge Plymouth Rock fowl possessed quality beyond my fondest expectations as rapid growers, great layers and grand table fowls, together with the color rivaling the Cochins.

"In the spring of 1898 'Georgine,' her full sister and two half-sisters, were selected because of their wonderful laying qualities and fine color, for the foundation of something new in fancy poultry. With each of these four fine specimens of the old American Partridge Cochin was mated an (then) Indian Game cockerel. These cockerels were chosen from a large flock with bright yellow legs, thin high combs, eyes toward the bay as much as possible and bordering on the Rock shape.

"The result of the first cross was quite satisfactory in some respects but simply disheartening in others. It was wonderful how the feathers disappeared from the shanks, some of the first cross being almost free from feathers on legs, but nearly every one had the shape and high station of the game, besides the males were almost black in hackle and saddle and the females inclined to open lacing.

"How to overcome these conditions was the problem of the second year. After considering all possible crosses (realizing that a standard breed was much more advisable) in order to get brighter color, I decided to use Golden Wyandotte males, even in preference to Partridge Wyandotte males, because the latter were then so dark and devoid of bright color as to make them very undesirable to use with fowls already too black. Consequently, from a neighboring breeder, all the surplus cockerels were purchased and from these forty or fifty cockerels eight large, strong fellows, mostly with single combs, were taken and mated with the very best females from my first cross. The majority of these were good in eyes, legs, and top color; and so much improvement was expected the second year. They were mated principally in pairs and trios, but one or two of the most de-

sirable were given an extra female. Some of these cockerels had fairly good combs, but most of them either had sidesprigs or very irregularly serrated combs with too many serrations.

"The results of these matings were surprising and very forcibly demonstrated to me that my new breed was going to be harder to perfect than was the Partridge Wyandotte which I had helped others to produce a few years before. The cockerel line had been improved at the expense of the pullet pencilling. For the first time clear breasts appeared in plenty among the females, but now fowls with even stubs were not much in the majority and shape was greatly improved as well as male color, except in breast and body color, which were somewhat mottled in many males.

"Aside from color difficulties, I found much trouble in selecting enough breeding fowls with fairly good combs for my third mating, for I had now fully determined to use only my foundation stock. While some of the matings of the last year had resulted in fairly good sexes (the first inclination to single mating) and strange as it may seem, they were most troubled with stubs on shanks and toes.

"After much thought I concluded to use one of these SINGLE MATING females in each mating the third year and to this decision I owe much of my success, for although it increased stub trouble to some extent yet the advancement in color was so marked in the offspring of these females that a majority of my future breeders were selected from them and I am fully convinced that their use was no mistake.

"The third year nine matings were made, but as all the progeny of three pens were sent to market we have to do with but six. It might be well to add that each subsequent year the matings that figured in the production of the Partridge Plymouth Rock fowl had a tendency to grow less showing conclusively the wisdom of carrying as many matings as possible at the early stages of a new breed of parti-colored fowls. For the originator must become more critical and may eliminate the offspring of whole pens in order to advance rapidly. In time it is wise to reject some of the parent fowls for breeders, but not until the desired characteristics are somewhat established, and only close observation can assist in determining when to do this.

"The progeny of the six fairly successful matings of 1900 showed better color in both sexes as a rule and some improvement in comb shape. At the end of this season several specimens of each sex were exhibited at small poultry shows, attracting some attention, several sales being made.

"Realizing the necessity of matings, in order to improve rapidly, ten pens were mated in 1901, using cock birds and hens for the first time. Special attention was given to shape matings with the result that little advancement was made in color, but improvement in shape was noticeable. This year was quite discouraging and much of the stock was marketed. However, there was considerable interest shown in the Partridge Plymouth Rock and a number of matings were sold. Some of the very best of these

were placed in this vicinity, as it occurred to me that their offsprings might subsequently be of value to me in getting 'new blood' for my future matings. This proved to be good foresight, for in 1902 my residence was changed and but two pens were possible at my new home. Just at the close of the breeding season one of the two male birds died so that conditions were indeed discouraging.

"Just previous to this time some correspondence had passed between a gentleman residing in Wisconsin, and myself, relative to the purchase of stock, and being somewhat downcast by the loss of the male bird I sold my entire flock, including old and young birds, together with my best wishes, to the Wisconsin party, intending that he should have full benefit of my five seasons of labor.

"Although seemingly the sale of the new breed had lifted quite a burden from my shoulders, yet it was not without regret that I saw them go. When a fellow fancier remarked: 'I knew that you had undertaken more than you could do,' a load more burdensome than that of making a new breed of fancy fowls fell upon me and, learning the Wisconsin gentleman was compelled to discontinue his poultry, I gathered together three of the best trios from some of my customers, who had depended upon me to assist them in mating, and in the early spring of 1904 again set sail on the Partridge Plymouth Rock sea, hoping eventually to land at 'Plymouth Rock' with undisputed quality.

"A few of the fowls produced in 1904 were quite satisfactory, although a new difficulty encountered was the scarcity of 'new blood' because the new start had to be made with so few matings. There were now some pretty good colored males and fair colored females. As a whole they were much better in Rock shape than previously. Several were sold for breeders.

"For 1905 six matings were made, using two of the cock birds, which had proved to be fine breeders, and four cockerels, two each from these two cock birds. With each male were used from two to four females. In one of these pens a single comb Partridge Wyandotte pullet was used, keeping her eggs separate and carefully marking all her chicks, as had been done with all others from the beginning.

"The result this year was that blood began to tell, for the males not only improved but there were actually some good Partridge colored females while, with the exception of the chicks from the Wyandotte Sport, they were fairly good in shape. These youngsters were culled down very closely, although real culls were now in the minority, and every chick with stubs, with other than good shape, or with a poor comb was discarded. The chicks from the Wyandotte Sport, together with their mother, were all disposed of, as most of them had dark legs and very few of them even passable shape, so they were considered worthless as breeders.

"At two minor shows where a few of my best specimens were placed on exhibition, the judges complimented me on their quality and for the

first time encouragement was received from expert authority, one of America's leading judges reproving me for not showing earlier. This year inquiries came for the new breed and some nice specimens were mated and sold at good prices. My records show a number of specimens and a notation in my record book reads: 'During the year Partridge Plymouth Rock fowls were shipped to five different states.'

"The year 1906 found me actually in a position to select my breeding fowls along Standard requirements. Eight quite respectable matings were made and in several of the pens as many as five females were used—great progress in numbers. These were now chosen with shape, good color, and good bay eyes as a rule. Owing to the foundation stock I had used I had never experienced the difficulty with leg color that the Partridge Wyandotte breeding encountered, so have paid very little attention to this section, although many times have been complimented on the fine color of the legs of my Partridge Plymouth Rocks.

"From friends who were breeding Partridge Wyandottes I secured several single comb Sports, mating them in different ways, with the result that everything was discarded, the chicks from but one female being other than culls, and have felt like experimenting no more with Wyandotte Sports. However, it is a temptation sometimes when a person feels that there is a chance to overcome some objection in the parent stock by this out-closing. The chicks from my eight regular pens showed by far more improvement than at any previous year and were quite even in quality. Breeding fowls for the next year were selected from all the pens. Interest in the new fowl was growing rapidly and sales increased proportionately so that I now began to sell 'show birds.'

"For 1907 ten pens were mated, using sixty females, and the new breed made the greatest progress of its history. This was natural, however, as several of the matings were headed by males richer in color than the Wyandottes and the females were the equal of the Partridge Wyandottes in this respect, while in eyes and legs the new breed was better than either Partridge Cochins or Partridge Wyandottes.

"From these matings many fine specimens were produced and very bitter indeed were my disappointments when sickness of myself and family prevented me from showing them in the fall and winter of 1907-1908. After making entries at the Jamestown Exposition illness prevented sending the fowls and my entry fees were forfeited. It was the first of March following before my family was free from typhoid fever.

"During this time, thanks to my fancier friends, I was in a measure able to compare my fowls with those on exhibition. Of the Partridge Plymouth Rock fowls shown at the leading shows I was given descriptions and sample feathers. This, together with the fact that at some of the very largest shows I had furnished the winning specimens, gave me an indication of the relative quality of my stock. Sales were increasing and my

customers were pleased, another evidence that years of toil and study were to be rewarded by success.

"In one flock of youngsters, hatched from April 1st to April 14th, 1906, there were just twenty-four pullets which, except to remove the cockerels about September 1st, were not disturbed until January 20th following, when some were sold as breeders and others went into the breeding pens. These pullets had laid one hundred and five dozen eggs, an actual daily egg record being kept. This was proof that utility had been kept in sight. In addition to this, the quality of this flock was such that every pullet was used for breeding purposes.

"Undaunted by failure to show and having more fowls on hand as a consequence, for 1908 fourteen matings were made. These pens produced over a hundred choice show fowls besides numerous winners for minor shows, a number of fine show birds winning in the hands of my customers at America's leading exhibitions in addition to the magnificent record they made for me. Judges unhesitatingly pronounced them the best in existence and naturally I felt somewhat repaid for ten years of almost ceaseless work.

"At times it has occurred to me that there might have been a shorter road to success. It may be that Partridge Plymouth Rocks could have been produced in less time, by simply taking the American Partridge Cochins and breeding the feathers from the shanks, selecting from time to time the specimens with least feathers on legs for breeders. It is noticeable that as the feathers disappear from the legs of the fowls there is a tendency of the cushions and the depth of breast to go with them, so that it would have been comparatively easy to have perfected Plymouth Rock shape in this way. Or had I been content, at the start, to have taken Partridge Wyandotte Sports, and claimed origination, my path might have been temporarily strewn with roses at many places where thorns only confronted me, but in that event we would not have the true Partridge Plymouth Rock of today.

"Naturally I have had much trouble with large combs, for at all times breeding stock was selected for laying qualities as well as for shape and color. But much improvement has been made along this line the past few seasons with the result that they now rank with other Rocks in this respect.

"From the beginning, the production of the Partridge Plymouth Rock fowl has been a system of single mating, so that it is now no more difficult to produce show specimens of this new breed than of the older ones. Single mating is simply selecting fine show specimens of each sex and mating them. In other words, single mating and building a new breed are parallel cases and must be fortified by the very best ancestry of both sexes.

"Two dangers must be avoided if we wish to succeed, either in perfecting or improving fancy fowls. One is mating those with the same defects and the other is going outside of a strain for 'new blood.' One is

equally as disastrous as the other. This idea of getting stock of absolutely no relation to the fowl with which they are to be mated has ruined more good flocks than we at first imagine. It is almost a custom and the idea that it is necessary is prevalent, even among fanciers, while the very opposite is the case. Seldom, although practiced with the very oldest breeds, will matings of entirely different strains of a breed produce much better than culls, and their progeny is very inferior foundation stock. Careful observation and experience of nearly half the varieties of pure-bred poultry convince me that there are as few exceptions to this rule as other rules.

"Successful single mating or successful breed producing will come to any breeder, of any breed, who selects and mates fowls for certain ideals and who has the courage to stay by it."

GEORGE H. BRACKENBURY'S HISTORY OF THE ORIGIN

George H. Brackenbury, of Auburn, N. Y., who was so prominent in the origin and development of the Partridge and Silver Pencilled Wyandottes, in the "American Fancier" of January 19, 1901 relates the origin of Partridge or Pencilled Plymouth Rocks as follows:

"The next new variety of fowls to be introduced to public notice is the Pencilled Plymouth Rock in two colors, the Silver Pencilled and Partridge Pencilled. E. O. Thiem started to make a Partridge Pencilled some years ago, but I think discontinued breeding them, and later Dr. W. C. Crocker, of Foxboro, Massachusetts started both varieties, Silver and Partridge Pencilled. We met Mr. Crocker at Boston one year ago and discovered the fact that he was originating something new with plumage like the Pencilled Wyandotte, through his persistent inquiries as to our method of producing and breeding the pencilling and color in the Pencilled Wyandottes. Then he inquired if we had any single comb Sports. This confirmed our suspicions. Having a few single combs in each color, they were sent to Mr. Crocker to be mated to the birds he already had, and we understand he has made great improvement by using these single comb Sports from both varieties of Pencilled Wyandottes, they having bred true to single comb, clean legs, and nicely pencilled plumage. 'But there are others' who have started and are breeding them, one of these being none other than an esteemed contributor to the 'American Fancier,' Mr. John Lowe, of Swansea, Mass. Mr. Lowe is also originating a strain of each variety and hardly knows which he admires more, the Silver Pencilled or the Partridge Pencilled. But this is not all. Mr. R. G. Buffinton of Fall River, Mass., of whom it has been said, 'a breeder who breeds Buff-inton lots,' is also originating the Partridge Pencilled variety, and has recently informed me that he has just purchased all of Dr. N. B. Aldrich's Partridge Pencilled Rocks, besides a lot of other birds of this variety from other breeders. So it would seem that Massachusetts is a veritable hotbed in the production of these new Pencilled Rocks. The writer has three pullets

and a cockerel or two of these single comb sports in the Partridge Pencilled variety, which, if mated together, might produce single combed results only, and if we conclude to do this we will be 'in it' too, but we will do nothing of the sort. The two varieties of Pencilled Wyandottes keep us busy thinking, and a rose comb suits our taste better than a single comb. There is a probability that 'there are others' in different parts of the world who are breeding these new Pencilled Plymouth Rocks besides those mentioned above. These however, are all that I have heard of thus far. I do not doubt but that these two varieties will be brought to a very high standard of perfection, or at least they will soon be brought up to an equality with the Partridge Cochin and Dark Brahma in color and markings, as the Partridge Cochin and Dark Brahma can be used in improving these two new varieties. It will be noticed that I have used the name 'Partridge Pencilled.' This name will still cleave to the two varieties in the same (Pencilled) class. This, in all probability, is the name by which the Partridge or Golden Pencilled Wyandottes will be called in the future."

Dr. W. C. Crocker, Foxboro, Mass., referred to by Mr. Brackenbury in the above, in the Poultry Tribune of October 1904, gives the history of the origin of his Partridge Rocks as follows:

"The origin of the new varieties of poultry is a subject that is interesting to a considerable portion of the poultry fraternity. As I have had considerable to do with these new varieties I will give a short account of their history. My first experience in breeding thoroughbred poultry was back in the 70's, when I procured a setting of Partridge Cochin eggs, which I concluded, after reading up with considerable care what I could find about the various breeds, would come the nearest to satisfying me. From my setting of eggs I was delighted by getting three very pretty chicks. These were carefully nurtured, and with one male and two females the next season I started to raise a good flock, and with very gratifying success. So I continued to inbreed for two or three years, when I was troubled by an increasing quantity of stunted and deformed specimens. All kinds of deformity developed—hump back, cross bills, etc. When my complaints reached my father he suggested that I should procure a male bird from another flock. This doubtless made a marked improvement. At this time I formed the conception of a fowl that would be my ideal of beauty and utility. It was one with the beautiful plumage of the Partridge Cochin, but without feathers on the shanks to be dragged in the mud and filth; and second, my ideal fowl must be an active, up-to-date, wideawake American fowl, and not so lazy or stupid that it had to be put to bed or on the roost every night. I see that breeders of the Cochins at this date don't attempt to have them roost at all.

"For some years I dropped the poultry subject, but in 1899 I again took up the matter, and this time determined to MAKE what I wanted. For this purpose I procured a trio of Partridge Cochins, and after some comparison of notes with Mr. Richard Hooper, who was breeding Part-

ridge Cochins and Brown Leghorns crosses, I went to the Boston Poultry show for 1900 and while there was surprised to find that someone had anticipated my plan, for there were first shown by Messrs. Cornell and Brackenbury the beautiful new variety that Mr. Brackenbury had bred, with the plumage of the Partridge Cochin. In talking to Mr. Brackenbury I revealed to him my plan for a Partridge Plymouth Rock, and later procured from him and Mr. Cornell all the single comb Sports from their Golden Pencilled Wyandottes. These single comb Sports were bred with a half blood Partridge Cochin male that Mr. Brackenbury bred from his stock, and also with a cross-bred cockerel of Mr. Hooper's stock, bred three-fourths Partridge Cochin and one-fourth Brown Leghorn. From these matings I have bred some very fine specimens of a Partridge Plymouth Rock—an American type of fowl, with the clear shanks and the beautiful Partridge Cochin plumage. I have also bred a strain in connection with Hooper from my trio of Partridge Cochins of 1900 and an Indian Game cockerel bred by Mr. Charles D. Cotton. From this strain we now have some fine specimens and of very rich plumage. My strain of Partridge Plymouth Rocks are now bred closely as follows:

"Golden Pencilled Hamburg one-sixteenth. Golden Laced Wyandotte, two-sixteenths; Brown Leghorn, one-sixteenth; Partridge Cochin, twelve-sixteenths.

"As others have taken up the breeding of Partridge and Silver Plymouth Rocks, it is fair to state that this is the first and original strain bred in connection with the Cornell and Brackenbury stock, and I know of no strains today of either Partridge or Silver Plymouth Rocks but what have received help, either directly or indirectly from the Cornell-Brackenbury stock."—W. C. Crocker, Foxboro, Mass.

N. B. It may be of interest to note that the Mr. Cornell above referred to as a pioneer breeder of Partridge and Silver Pencilled Wyandottes is the Ezra Cornell who founded Cornell University at Ithaca, N. Y.

Here is how the Plymouth Rock Standard Breed Book published in 1919 and 1921 speaks of the aforementioned accounts as related by S. A. Noftzger and W. C. Crocker: "From these accounts it appears that the honor of originating Partridge Plymouth Rocks is really divided between the eastern and western strains. According to these accounts, Mr. Noftzger made the first mating with a Partridge Plymouth Rock in mind only one year before Dr. Crocker began breeding with the same ideal in mind. We are very fortunate to have these accounts by the originators themselves, preserved in such a manner that certain uncertainties that hang over the ancestry of some of our American varieties do not obscure the lineage of this one."

OTHER PIONEER PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK STRAINS

In the previously mentioned book, "The Plymouth Rocks," published in July, 1911, appear the following accounts of the Hillcrest and the Hage-

man strains. William F. Fotterall, proprietor of the Hillcrest Farm, at Oakland, Pennsylvania, writes as follows: "Though only admitted to the American Standard of Perfection August 10, the Partridge Plymouth Rock is no new variety having been originated some twelve years ago by Dr. Crocker, who was the first one to bring this beautiful breed before the public. There are others who claim to be the originators of this variety though it was so many years after this they took to exhibiting them that they would find it more than difficult to substantiate their claim. The first time that I saw these birds exhibited was in 1902 by Rowland G. Buffinton. At that time I had made several crosses with the idea of producing a Partridge Plymouth Rock. The first cross was a Brown Leghorn and a Partridge Cochins, and another cross was the Barred Rock and Partridge Cochins. The progeny of these crosses were mated together the next year and the following year a cock bird of the Brown Leghorn and the Partridge Cochins was used, which proved a great success. I then purchased some of the Rowland G. Buffinton stock and crossed with my own strain and later purchased the best of the flock that was originated by F. A. Keller, of Pigeon, Pa., and bred in with my flocks, with the result that they produced the winning strain that had won the blue ribbons at the Madison Square Garden for the past five years, and no matter what others may write and advertise, Hillcrest Farm is the oldest breeder and exhibitor of Partridge Plymouth Rocks in America. As a table fowl and egg producer, they surpass all other varieties of Rocks, being excellent mothers, hardy and fast growers."

In writing of how he came to take up Partridge Plymouth Rocks, J. A. Hageman, of Michigan, tells about the origin of his own strain as follows:

"The attempt to create new breeds or varieties is laudable and should be encouraged. The blending of various bloods has given us many grand breeds and varieties. Indeed, aside from the Asiatics, the Houdans, and a few of the Mediterraneans, all of our popular breeds and varieties are manufactured and the patience that overcomes all difficulties is worthy of the highest praise and deserving of consistent emulation, while success, if worthy and enduring, means a fortune to the enterprising breeder.

"I am often asked why I breed Partridge Plymouth Rocks by those who know that for twenty years I successfully bred Pit Games. When a person enters the poultry business or takes up a new breed, it is usually for the purpose of improving his financial condition or for pleasure, or, as in my case, with both in view.

"Six or seven years ago I saw a nice flock of Partridge Wyandottes. I became acquainted with the owner and had a pleasant heart-to-heart chicken talk with him. When I mentioned about their breeding a few single combs, he informed me where there was a choice lot of so-called Partridge Plymouth Rocks. I at once looked up the owner, a Mr. Randall, of Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

"On seeing Mr. Randall's birds I questioned their being anything but Partridge Wyandotte Sports. I bought ten or twelve of them, selecting

such as looked good to me, picking out Plymouth type only and specimens of good size. That same season I found a man who had crossed Partridge Cochins with Brown Leghorns, namely, Mr. M. H. Bryan, of Brookfield, Mich., and another breeder who crossed Partridge Cochins with Indian Game, the latter being Mr. F. H. Lynd, of Middleville, Mich. I obtained both males and females from these fanciers. I found in both flocks some nicely pencilled Partridge colored birds and some that were entirely free from feathers on the legs, and others with only a few stubs on legs. From among these birds I selected the nicely marked ones—those having or appreciating the Plymouth Rock type—and bred them, mating up these pens for my foundation stock. I culled closely each year until today I have been breeding Plymouth type with Partridge Cochin color and have given them the name of Partridge Plymouth Rocks.

"This, then, is the foundation of the 'Wolverine Strain' of bred-to-lay Partridge Plymouth Rocks with their handsome shape and their practical qualities of early and prolific laying, early maturing for breeding purposes, etc., we have a beautiful and practical fowl. My Partridge Rocks are equal to the Leghorns for early maturity and laying and they excell them in winter laying.

"Partridge Plymouth Rocks deserve a place in the front rank, either when viewed from a utility man's point of view or from the higher plane of the fancier. I find that the longer I breed them the more prominently their qualities stand out, and I believe the time is not far distant when Partridge Plymouth Rocks 'will lead while others follow.'"

By way of review of the preceding accounts, the Plymouth Rock Standard Breed Book, after pointing out the striking similarities in plumage of the Partridge Plymouth Rock and its derivative fowls, concludes as follows:

"It is noteworthy that each one of the originators and early breeders lays great stress on the efforts made to quickly perfect type by selecting only those specimens that were the best Plymouth Rock shapes. The impression given is that type was ever given the preference over color and pencilling, but to some of those who have watched the variety develop, and not only this but other pencilled varieties, it appears that many sacrifices in type must have been made for the sake of true pencillings; that is, unless type refers to comb."

After due reflection on the fact that the three prominent and well established Partridge colored fowl up to the present time are the Partridge Cochin, the Partridge Wyandotte, and the Partridge Plymouth Rock—which came into existence in that order,—it is natural to ask: "Why did not the Partridge Wyandotte satisfy the lover of Partridge color and markings on a clean legged fowl?" The answer assuredly centers around the word "comb," and secondarily, perhaps, to "type." There is a wide discrepancy between the single comb of the Plymouth Rock and the rose comb which characterizes the Wyandotte. Both are recognized as American breeds of poultry, but in type or symmetry there is another breach. The

graceful lines of the Plymouth Rock cannot be denied, and the somewhat lighter weight of the Wyandotte doubtless did not fully satisfy the ideals of pioneer Partridge Plymouth Rock breeders. At any rate, there is a fitting place for a Partridge colored variety in each established breed of poultry. Fortunately, the Partridge Cochin carries a single comb, and as the Cochin formed the predominant foundation for the Partridge Plymouth Rock, no serious defect in comb has been experienced, at least not for many years.

As a matter of historical accuracy, it appears that definite and favorable action was taken by the American Poultry association to recognize Partridge Plymouth Rocks as a Standard variety of the Plymouth Rock breed in the year 1909, but that through some technicality in not notifying the secretary of the association in time they were not officially admitted to the Standard of Perfection until August 1910 at the St. Louis meeting.

No history of Partridge Plymouth Rocks can be complete without some mention of some of the staunch breeders who have maintained and developed this variety after it once gained a firm foothold. It is of real interest to note that one of the prime originators, Mr. S. A. Nofztger, of North Manchester, Indiana, is still in the game. Henry J. Hunt, of Madison, Wisconsin, is another Partridge Rock breeder of long experience. He writes that in the January 19, 1901 issue of "The American Fancier" he found an advertisement of Partridge Plymouth Rocks by Rowland G. Buffinton of Fall River, Mass., and that he began raising what he concluded to be his ideal fowl, Partridge Plymouth Rocks, during that summer. For some years Mr. Hunt's father, James W. Hunt, of Stoughton, Wis., has also bred Partridge Plymouth Rocks. Unfortunately Partridge Plymouth Rocks have not been favored with many large commercial breeders. Bird Bros., (Charles E. and Cyrus M.) of Meyersdale, Pennsylvania have been leading advertisers of the variety and probably the most successful exhibitors of Partridge Plymouth Rocks consistently since the year 1910. In their 1924 catalog Bird Bros., call attention to the Billion Dollar scope of the poultry industry and then speak of this variety as follows: "Partridge Plymouth Rocks stand out as one of the best American breeds. During these days of high feed prices and high advertising we must be careful and select a variety that will satisfy the whims of the American people for they are demanding a better fowl today than they did in the years gone by; they are demanding a fowl of great beauty and great egg and meat production. Partridge Plymouth Rocks are strong in these qualities and will please the most particular buyer." And here is what Bird Bros., have to say about the origin of their "Champion" strain of Partridge Rocks: "It may be of some interest to the reader to know that our strain of Partridge Rocks is not a patched up affair of remnants of other much boosted strains, but is the result of a small beginning with a few settings of eggs in 1910 and the addition of new blood from time to time as necessary. From this small beginning our present strain of 'Proven Champions' is a distinct creation and

perfection of our own. Through a thorough knowledge of Partridge color and careful, judicious mating, the rise of our strain from obscurity fourteen years ago to first place today is nothing short of phenomenal—their tide has never ebbed.” There are a goodly number of breeders who have bred Partridge Rocks for a dozen or more years and who have firm faith in the greater future success and expansion of the variety. It is a significant fact that when Partridge Rock breeders sometimes are obliged temporarily to give up chicken raising they invariably choose Partridge Rocks when they later are able to get back into the chicken game.

During the last few years several extensive and enthusiastic Partridge Rock breeders have come into prominence in all directions—west, south, east and north. Only a few years ago Partridge Rock day-old chicks were not available on the market. Today at least six large hatcheries throughout the United States offer Partridge Plymouth Rock chicks by the thousands. As yet Partridge Rocks have not made much headway in other countries, although no less than six Canadian breeders exhibited Partridge Rocks at the Third World Poultry Congress held in 1926 at Ottawa, Canada. Naturally there is much room for expansion, especially in the form of commercial Partridge Rock flocks, but great strides of advancement are being made and this variety is now becoming truly international in scope.

In a treatise of this nature it is, obviously difficult to write with completeness and certainty. Data concerning the origin and history of anything is at best incomplete and somewhat indefinite. The present writer has endeavored to submit as full an account as possible and with due accuracy, but he asks that the reader bear in mind the difficulties involved in rendering a full account of this nature, and that he be lenient in his criticism of the same.

The longer one breeds Partridge Plymouth Rocks and the better acquainted he becomes with Partridge Rock breeders in general, the greater future a Partridge Rock breeder comes to predict for his favorite fowl.

L. C. A.

PARTRIDGE ROCKS — REFLECTIONS ON NATURE

AS RELATED BY F. N. PERKINS, LATE OF FREEPORT,
ILLINOIS, ABOUT 1914

“The question regarding the origin of domestic poultry cannot be answered to a certainty because historical data on the subject is not available, yet it is a matter of fact that many different features found in our fowls point to its descending from the same species of *Bankiva* jungle fowl that still live at the present time in its wild state in India. The co-operation of the wild fowls in the production of the different varieties of poultry

could hardly have been possible, and theories offered on this subject are of very little value.

"There are but four different varieties of jungle fowls recognized by the world's greatest naturalists, namely: the Bankiva jungle fowl; the Ceylon jungle fowl, sometimes called Lafayettes or Stanley jungle fowl; the Sonnerat jungle fowl; and the Forktailed jungle fowl of Java.

"The small area over which the latter three of these varieties are distributed, the considerable variation in the sound of the crowing of the cocks, and other peculiarities in the formation of certain parts of the body as well as the coloring of the plumage, and which cannot be found in any of the domestic fowls, eliminates these three varieties from co-operation in the formation of the breeds. On the other hand, however, many peculiarities which the Bankiva jungle fowl has in common with our domestic breeds point to the fact that the origin of all our chickens can be traced directly back to them. The color of the Bankiva cock is almost exactly like that of our Brown Leghorns, Black Breasted Red Game, Partridge Cochins, Wyandottes, and Partridge Plymouth Rocks. That the color of the Bankiva jungle fowl varied according to the climate and altitude in which it was found has been proven by Darwin, the noted naturalist. Especially the color of the legs, which changed from the blue to pinkish yellow, and the ear lobes, which changed from white to red. He noted also that the saddle and hackle feathers were either of a brighter or paler shade in color, according to the climatic conditions in different parts of the country, but never a mention is made of a solid colored specimen. This goes to show that our different colored fowls have been produced by selective breeding. It is also a well known fact that it is the tendency of the color of the plumage in many of our domestic fowls to revert back to the original colors of the Bankiva. We notice this especially in Black Spanish and other varieties which carry the blood of some black ancestors, no matter how many generations removed. The hackle feather and wing bows will be affected first and show the red feathers of their original ancestors.

"Another feature which the Bankiva has in common with our domestic poultry is that the sound of the cock's voice is identically the same; they will also mate up with them and the offspring is capable of reproduction, which has not always been the case in experiments made with the other three varieties. The Bankiva jungle fowl reproduces itself year after year with color variations in accordance with the part of the country in which it is found. There is no double mating and the brilliant red color in the male and the color of the female which resembles the Brown Leghorn is reproduced faithfully in the offspring.

"It will be seen then by the fancier that it is absolutely unnecessary to double mate in order to produce these colors, and in the Partridge Plymouth Rock as bred today we have succeeded in duplicating nature's method of mating and produce from one breeding pen males as well as females of Standard colors.

"Where, in confusion, canyons, mountains and swift running rivers with painted banks abound, the wild turkey, pheasant, partridge and quail range through the wilds, unterrified by man or gun; and tall, straight pines, in almost unbroken forests, plant their feet in a tangle of down-timber, that required centuries to produce, therein the wild feathered tribes abide in peace, multiply and reproduce each successive year to the last minute detail. In the redwood forests are found the giant trees of unknown age which, however, are no older than the coloring and blood lines of the wild feathered tribe of red and brown, and markings which man had no hand in producing. Should this not be evidence to you of their creation to meet the demand of nature? If this is not true, tell us where are the black, red, buff, or white prairie hen or grouse. The name Partridge Plymouth Rock was man's conception, but nature marked its feathered tribes for a purpose. And why were they the different shades of brown and red, the coloring of the Partridge Plymouth Rocks? Aside from having nature's colors, the Partridge Rock is stronger in vitality and instinct. I believe that, if the man of theories would study nature's laws and use them as a guide, the Standard of Perfection and reliability could be stamped on many breeds. Nature does not import new and untried blood lines. The same feathered family multiply and thrive each successive year and breed absolutely true to color and marking. Still man believes that he can improve on nature's laws. Nature has her system and asks no questions from man, and if he claims an improvement on her laws, his system is for the purpose of parting you and your money. There may be rare occasions where science assists nature, but it has not been successfully applied to the breeding of fowls. The feathered tribes were created to benefit mankind, and the Almighty gave them a home of fresh air and a free range, and a coloring to protect and help produce sturdy offspring. Nature's teachings are more reliable than the pen or mind of man in breeding fowls, and should be studied in all its details, as there is wisdom in its breeding and feeding of the wild feathered fowls. I hope to see the day when it will be declared a crime in every state to slaughter the beautiful wild game fowls, as they are one of nature's noble family."

After carefully reading the foregoing article written by the late F. N. Perkins, of Freeport, Illinois, we surely must feel indebted for the entertaining way in which the article was written.

Partridge Plymouth Rocks certainly resemble the red and brown colors of the ancient Bankiva jungle fowl. The 1930 American Standard of Perfection affords us a standard description, both in male and female, that closely conforms to natural hues and so enables Partridge Rock breeders to obtain good results under single mating. As Mr. Perkins has already remarked, "Partridge Rocks furnish us a vivid reflection of the beautiful colors of its earliest predecessors, the ancient Bankiva jungle fowl of India."

—Ed.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

By HENRY J. HUNT

MADISON, WIS.

In our thirty years of experience in breeding Partridge Plymouth Rocks it has been our pleasure to study the origin and early history of this variety and note the advances of this beautiful and useful fowl. If this splendid breed had been given an equal opportunity with some of the other high producing varieties there is no doubt that it would have held its own with the best of them.

When universities and state experiment stations raise only a handful or possibly none of this variety and concentrate their energies on just two breeds it is time for the other breeders to start something. It is up to the American Partridge Plymouth Rocks club to see that every university maintains a flock of Partridge Plymouth Rocks and devotes as much care to their improvement as is done with some of the other varieties.

PIONEERS OF THE BREED

The first advertisement of this breed which ever came to our attention was that of R. G. Buffington of Fall River, Mass., and it appeared in the January 19, 1901 issue of the American Farmer. We purchased eggs from Mr. Buffington that spring and raised three pullets. In the fall we purchased a cockerel from Dr. W. C. Crocker of Foxboro, Mass., and in February, 1902, we showed our birds at Oregon, Wis., and the new variety attracted considerable attention. Dr. Crocker's advertisement appeared in the February, 1903, issue of the Poultry Tribune. Messrs. Lowe and Harrop of Swansea, Mass., exhibited at Boston in March, 1902. Mr. E. C. Thein and Dr. N. B. Aldrich also were early pioneers in bringing forth the Partridge Plymouth Rocks. In 1905 or 1906 William Fotterall of the Hillcrest Farm at Oakford, Pa., advertised his stock in the Poultry Tribune. A male bird purchased from Mr. Fotterall was used in developing our own beautiful strain of Partridge Plymouth Rocks.

ORIGIN OF VARIETY

Various combinations have been used by the several originators of the breed in developing Partridge Plymouth Rocks to their present high standard of perfection. In both Mr. Buffington's and Dr. Crocker's strains the following were used.

Golden Pencilled Hamburg.....	1:16
Golden Laced Wyandottes.....	2:16
Brown Leghorns.....	1:16
Partridge Cochins.....	12:16

In a few cases single comb sports from Partridge Wyandottes, a very small percentage of Cornish Indian Game, Dark Brahma, and possibly one or two other breeds have been worked into this fine variety.

In the March, 1928 issue of the International Plymouth Rock Journal, Mr. Joseph L. Hoelker of Oldenburg, Ind., has an article on Richness of Partridge Plumage, that should be carefully read by all those interested in this breed. Mr. Hoelker brings out the definition of richness in the color plumage of these beautiful birds by saying: "So likewise is the Partridge plumage rich because the Divine brush of nature has so generously emblazoned it with deep, warm, radiant color so pleasing to our eyes and it soothes our very artistic palates. Who can deny that the reddish bay plumage of the Partridge female with its black pencillings and the rich and the brilliant red and black striped feathers of the male are not rich in color?" This statement seems to summarize the description of color as well as anyone could in a limited space.

HIGH GRADE STOCK

Prior to 1912 we did not pedigree our birds but we have since found that this is a practice well worthwhile. We have used the common foot punch in most of our work as we can develop about sixty different marks by adding the clipping of right, left or both toe nails in connection with foot punchings. We also have used wing bands to some extent the past few years. In the first method it is necessary to follow up the punching in a few days to see that the perforation is remaining open; likewise with the wing bands, it is necessary to loosen them as the chick grows. It is evident that a mating which produces a high per cent of quality birds is much more valuable than one which produces but few good birds.

By studying the pedigree records we are able to retain certain matings which work out well. We also are able to line breed without ill effects of in-breeding. When new blood is introduced we mate so that we introduce the new blood slowly into the flock. In order to keep the utility side of the flock up to par we have found it desirable to select males from hens of good laying ability. The size, type, and vigor of the male is of primary importance and color is of secondary consideration. Perhaps the back breeding is of more value than anything in selecting a breeder. In case the male bird is slightly darker than standard color we would not hesitate to mate standard colored females with him. However, we endeavor to mate standard birds or birds from standard colored parents. We have produced many prize winners by single mating and strongly advocate this method. It behooves the Partridge Plymouth Rock breeders to study carefully the double mating results with other breeds and then proceed. Our experience as superintendent and assistant at the Dane County fair is that the popularity of the Brown Leghorns and Barred Rocks has dropped off since double mating was introduced. If single mating does not produce results, change the standard and do not make two distinct varieties. We believe the standard

is essentially right and that pedigreeing stock and single mating will be better for all concerned. How can a small breeder practice double mating? As the small breeder is the purchaser of many breeders why should we cut him out? As a matter of fact if he finds only double mating stock to purchase from he no doubt will go to some breed requiring a single mating only.

KNOWN AS GOOD LAYER

Partridge Plymouth Rocks are sturdy and they are good layers, too. An article in the January, 1929, issue of the Plymouth Rock Monthly entitled "Trapnesting Partridge Plymouth Rocks" and written by T. G. Kinvig of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, gives some very interesting statistics. He has had many records of 200 to 237 eggs per year. These birds are good quality standard specimens as Mr. Kinvig takes many prizes with his good layers. Our own experience is limited as we have yearly trap nest records for only a few birds. One of our prize winners and mother of several more laid 144 eggs her first year and also 144 in her second year. Our highest hen was 188 and we have had several between 140 and 188. As for meat, no fowl excels this variety for quality flavor. They are fine for roasting and of proper size for the ordinary family so that it is not necessary to kill the entire flock to have enough meat to serve a Sunday dinner.

SOME WEAK POINTS

Like all other varieties of standard bred poultry certain defects must be met and overcome. In our early matings, 1902 and later, we had considerable difficulty with feathers on the legs, side sprigs, with ears and twisted combs. By careful selection in our breeders never to use a bird with any of these defects no matter how good otherwise, we gradually reduced the per cent of culls. Then other defects came to our attention and we are watching these with equal vigilance. Some of these trouble makers are: white on neck under color, extra points on comb, short legs and body, purple barring, yellow hackle, undersize, weak long heads, positive white in feathers, indistinct markings, spotted and willow legs, and other little defects. While these are growing less as time goes on the alert breeder will not neglect removing any one of them in making up his select pens.

In the case of white or partially white wing feathers it sometimes happens that an injury to the new feathers may cause the change in color, but should the second feather come in white after removal of the first, then the bird should be culled out.

There are a few large breeders of this variety with Bird Bros., perhaps the most outstanding today. The greater number of boosters are the small back yard kind with one to three pens. Many breeders are professional men, doctors, lawyers, engineers, and some are business men or retired farmers. While the small breeder has his good will and feeling for his pet hobby, he cannot possibly do them justice and keep up his regular profession. As an example we have attempted and did complete two years of trapnest records

but on account of not being on the job during some extremely hot weather another year lost a valuable hen in a trap nest. It is also impossible to show at desirable shows because of pressure of other work.

HIGH AND LOW TIDES IN PARTRIDGE ROCK HISTORY

By R. LeROY ARMITAGE, Freeport, Illinois.

The Almighty has given mankind fowls of various types and colors. He has also given man the power to so intermingle these as to produce new and varied shapes and color schemes, in order that there may be a variety to suit every taste. Science tells us that all our present varieties descended from *Gallus Bankivus* or the red jungle fowl of India, so that the beginning tide of all poultry dates back several hundred years to these ancient fowls. We breeders of Partridge colored fowls claim (breeders of Brown Leghorns or Black Breasted Red varieties may make the same claim) to be more closely allied with Nature's original colors than any other variety, since the Partridge color and the color of *Gallus Bankivus* bear a striking resemblance. That is why the Partridge plumage (though its extreme beauty appears difficult) reproduces exceptionally true. It is Nature's color more than it is a creation of man. Thus the beginning tide of all our domestic poultry is especially dear to us breeders of Partridge varieties.

We must reverence in high esteem the names of Rev. Mr. Marsh, Jefferson Shaner, Philander Williams and Sherman Hartwell, who were among the first to advance the tide of Partridgedom in this country with their beautiful Partridge Cochins. Especially must we respect the Partridge Cochins of George W. Mitchell, who is held as an authority on this color by us younger breeders. "The line of curves is the line of beauty." Certainly Cochin type and Partridge color were a beautiful combination, but the feathered legs and toes were distasteful to many fanciers. This naturally led to another rise in the tide of Partridge color—the creation of a Partridge colored fowl without the feathered shanks. Here began the history of Partridge Wyandottes for the Rose Comb fanciers and Partridge Plymouth Rocks for the Single Comb fanciers. We shall confine this article to the latter and discuss various tides within the history of our own beloved variety.

Partridge Plymouth Rocks can trace their origin to a number of originators: Elmwood Farm, Weston, N. J.; Hill Crest Farm, Oxford, Pa.; Rock Hill Poultry Farm, Ossining, N. Y.; and Messrs. Kyle, Crocker, Buffington, Noftzger, George, etc. Some strains grew out of Partridge Wyandotte sports; others are crosses between Partridge Cochin, Dark Cornish and Golden Wyandotte; and some strains contain Brown Leghorn and Golden Pencilled Hamburg blood. Perhaps none of these strains have been kept up in

their purity but most of them have been intermingled so that we have the one grand Partridge Plymouth Rock, with the laying qualities of the Leghorn, the meat and vigor of the Game and the beauty of the Partridge Cochinchina—truly a wonderful creation! They were admitted to the Standard of Perfection in 1909 and then began a boom or tide in Partridge Rock history, the height of which has never been attained since by this variety. It was about this time that the author took up the breeding of Partridge Plymouth Rocks. I was just starting to breed Partridge Cochins when the announcement came of the creation and admittance to the Standard of Perfection of the clean-legged Partridge Plymouth Rocks, and this interested me to the extent that I began my career with this new variety. Thus it has been my privilege to observe the rising and ebbing tides of this variety since that time, although I am a rather young fancier.

They tell us that a few days after the recent earthquake in Japan, perhaps due to a reaction caused by the quake, a very high tide and some of the largest waves ever known appeared in the harbor of New York. Ferry boats had to cease service for a time and bathers had heaps of fun floating over the waves. The above illustrates Partridge Rock history for a period shortly after their admittance to the Standard. Their sudden boom was the earthquake which shook the poultry world. The great waves represent the extreme height of popularity which they reached. The ferries which ceased to operate were the older breeds which were dropped or retarded in favor of Partridge Rocks. And the bathers who had the fun on the waves were the Partridge Rock breeders who enjoyed a prosperous trade at that time.

Yes, Partridge Rocks once enjoyed a great boom. There were full-page ads for them in many of the poultry journals. Articles were written boosting them. Expensive catalogs were issued. They even won an egg-laying contest, which helped their popularity. Everything seemed lovely and they were the coming fowl. But suddenly there was a crash! Perhaps this was due to bad financing or disagreement among breeders. Big ads were reduced and in some cases stopped entirely. Some breeders went out of business. Classes were smaller at the shows. It was a great reaction after the big noise. Such spurts are injurious to any cause. **However, they** have some good points. They are like a revival meeting in a church. We all prefer a person who decides to live a better life by reasoning it out for himself that such a life would be better, in preference to the convert who is won entirely through emotionalism. However, some converts are gained and held through emotionalism that would have been gotten in no other way. The same way with a poultry boom. Breeders took up and still continue Partridge Rocks who perhaps would never have bred them otherwise. And I am in possession of a de luxe catalog which one of these prominent breeders gave me at the time the Partridge Rocks were in their glory. Although he has since quit the business, his efforts were not in vain, for in this catalog was an expensive color plate reproduction of Partridge Rocks

in natural colors. I have never seen one like it since and it will perhaps be a long time before we have another breeder with the cash to promote such an expensive picture, and I treasure very highly this work of art.

But even though this "noise" had its good points, we all admire the old horse that plugs along steadily in preference to the one that goes in jerks. It would have been far better for the Partridge Rocks could they have advanced gradually. But it was not the fault of the variety that they sank to such a low tide. We breeders were all to blame, for a breed will be advanced in proportion to the amount of enthusiasm we put into it.

"You can't keep a good man down" or "truth crushed to earth shall raise again." During all this period of depression, Partridge Rocks kept right on shelling out the eggs, growing luscious table meat and shining in gorgeous beauty so that fanciers are being compelled to recognize their merits once more. Their own good qualities are bringing them to the front without the aid of a wealthy publicity campaign. They are succeeding on their merits. Farmers are breeding them because they are proving themselves unsurpassed as layers and meat producers. Their beauty is attracting the fancier. Back-lot poultrymen are finding them to be the ideal fowl in confinement. Classes are increasing at the shows. We have a real, live club that is growing. Our secretary is a great leader. The Partridge Rock tide of the present is rising slowly but steadily on a foundation which cannot fail, namely, Their Merits!

I predict a future tide wherein we shall see Partridge Rocks elevated to a height equal to the tide of ten years ago. However, it will not be attained with mushroom speed but will be built up round by round. They will be as common in the farm flocks as the old reliable Barred Rock. We shall hear of them ranking high in every egg-laying contest. Our club will be large and strong with a fully equipped service of literature, books, pictures, ribbons, etc. The poultry journals will be full of ads and articles. Competition at the shows will be keen and, while we all admire the clean sweep records made by Thompson's "Ringlet" Barred Rocks, may there never come such a time or leader in Partridge Rocks. We want so many breeders to have the best that no one breeder can carry away all the honors. Such a high tide in the career of our variety can be attained and maintained only when each of us, no matter how small a breeder he is, exerts his share of enthusiasm for the breed.

Of course wars, panics, etc., lower the tide of any business and our variety would suffer under such conditions. There will no doubt come times when there will be dissention among breeders regarding color of male, or color of female; striping or pencilling of female hackle; male wing bows same shade of red as the back, hackle and saddle; leg color, etc. Such confusion is detrimental to the high tide of any breed. But if such a time ever comes in the history of Partridge Plymouth Rocks, may we heed the lesson taught us by the beautiful blending colors of their plumage—that to be at

their best in beauty, the colors must be in harmony. Harmony within the ranks of Partridge Rock breeders at all times will do more than all else to keep this splendid fowl at high tide.

WHY WE ARE BREEDING THE PARTRIDGE ROCKS

By HOELKER BROS., Oldenburg, Indiana.

Every breeder of poultry whether he happens to be a small or a large breeder, has his special reasons for breeding his favorite variety. We are no exception to this rule and consequently we are justified in giving our reasons why we breed the Partridge Plymouth Rocks. We are breeding them exclusively, having found out that by giving one breed your whole-hearted attention one can achieve success. We have already bred Buff Wyandottes, Golden Campines and Black Langshans but finally gave them up to give way for the Partridge Rocks whose practical qualities convinced us that they are the breed for us.

We chose the Plymouth Rock type because it is not so difficult to breed up to standard as the Wyandotte type and at the same time takes better with the farmers especially in our neighborhood.

The color pattern of the Partridge is one of the most beautiful in the Standard, being unsurpassed for richness of color. Let us take a look at a Partridge Plymouth Rock pair where the sun light strikes them and see how the beautiful color combinations of both male and female sparkle before your eyes. Of course the male takes our attention first as he is the king of the flock. Seeing him stand there with his graceful Plymouth Rock type, his brilliant red hackle back and saddle striped with a greenish black stripe through each feather, brilliant red wing bow and then shaded with a greenish black tail and lustrous black breast is a beauty to contemplate. Beside him is his pencilled queen with her rich mahogany feathers, each pencilled so artistically in black, being adorned with a brilliant green sheen that makes the real fancier's heart over bubble with joy. Beholding such a sight takes us away from the worries of life to make us a member of that great family—the lovers of the beautiful in animate nature.

If the Partridge color has beauty alone we would have a sufficient reason for breeding them, but it is a practical color as well, which is an aid to us. We experienced many sad incidents in the breeding of Buff Wyandottes where the best colored pullet would fade out into a horrible shade of Buff as a hen if it were not supplied with sufficient shade in summer to protect it from the rays of the sun. There are no such disappointments in breeding Partridge Rocks, as their rich color stays the same from the first of January until the last day of December. Besides this they are al-

ways ready for the show room, no washing being required to groom them as is necessary to show white plumage fowls.

The Partridge color is beautiful, practical and also a fancier's color. With a color combination of the most artistic kind, the Partridge Rock gives the real fancier a problem to solve which takes deep study, time and patience. As we are fanciers to the core, we enjoy breeding which gives us something to work for.

Last but not least, we are breeding the Partridge Rocks because they have a real live wire club in back of them at present which is a big boost to the popularity of the breed we love so much.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A REAL PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK?

By S. F. RAFF, Springville, Iowa.

"A vast number of people currently have in mind a desire of raising poultry as a hobby or as a commercial gain. Of course, there are those people who want to raise poultry as a relief from other cares.

"Some of these people have a few hens or so of mixed breeding which in the end is a great cost and a waste of money. Most poultry breeders cast a very baleful eye upon this class of people because they see the real good that these people could do for the poultry world. These people do not stop to think how much time and care the chicken breeders sacrifice so as to make the breed they raise a real one, and the best.

"This has been my personal aim ever since I started raising Partridge Plymouth Rocks about eight years ago.

"I first became interested in chickens about 30 years ago. I bought a few Partridge Cochins and started raising and showing them. I had wonderful success with them as a show bird.

"The color of these birds was far more beautiful and majestic than any bird I had ever seen at that time, but, I was not satisfied. I wanted a partridge colored bird that would be a good layer, a good meat bird and one that was free from feathered legs.

"I next bought a few Partridge Wyandottes and raised and showed them until 1919. At a poultry show I saw some Partridge Plymouth Rocks and I made up my mind then and there that they were the birds for me.

"Inasmuch as the Partridge Rocks carried the blood lines of the Leghorn, Hamburg and Wyandotte I knew that they were good layers. As a meat fowl they were surely unsurpassed, as they carried the blood lines of such rare meat birds as the Cochin, Game and Cornish in their ancestry.

"I purchased a trio of Partridge Rocks and two settings of eggs from reliable breeders and with this small flock, no expensive equipment—just an

oreary poultry house in the back yard—I have built up a flock that I am very proud of and think that any other breeder and lover of chickens would be.

“I am satisfied that I have found in this breed a larger fowl which matures as rapidly into a larger and better capon, broiler or fry than any other bird.

“I claim for this breed that they are the most popular of the new breeds, and since they have won several egg laying contests are among the topnotchers that they know no superior as a capon or table. They are always clean and can be shown without washing, while an active bird and a very good forager they are also contented when confined in town.

“As a matter of form I will offer a little proof as to some of my previous statements. In 1925 at the Iowa State show I entered six birds, winning 3 firsts, 2 seconds and 1 fourth. They were also holding a body capacity test so I entered these same birds and won first, second, third, fourth and fifth.

“I firmly believe that through careful mating I have gained the success that I have. Following is my form of mating: My first consideration when choosing birds for mating is their distinctive Rock type and body capacity. I next take into consideration the Standard qualifications as to color and pencilling. In short, I use one bird as an antitoxin of another.

“A person in mating should watch carefully the results of his matings so as to correct some of the faults, for this I am greatly in favor of the trapnest system which I am using at the present time.

“In mating I do not only choose my chickens from a fancier’s viewpoint, but also from the commercial viewpoint as the commercial value of these chickens when properly cared for nets vast profits over common chickens.

“I have two farm flocks of my own and from one of these flocks I culled 50 cockerels and had them caponized. These capons weighing from 8 to 13 pounds, bringing returns of 10 cents more a pound above the average price of poultry on the local market. From my other farm flock I culled 30 cockerels, fed them on a mash and milk feed for 10 days and sold them on the local market at 24 cents a pound. These birds were hatched in the middle of June and weighed 7½ pounds apiece on November 15.”

“Pop, how soon will I be old enough to do as I please?”

“I don’t know. Nobody has ever lived that long yet.”

—Troy Times.

It lies in our power to attune the mind to happiness.—Auerbach.

Mrs.—“You used to say that I was all the world to you.”

Mr.—“Yes, but I learned my geography since.”

—Poultry Item.

Partridge Plymouth Rocks

PIRIE'S PEERLESS STRAIN

Winners at Iowa State Fair 1931

1st Young Pen and 4th Pullet on two entries.

Stock and Eggs in season.

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Partridge Plymouth Rock BANTAMS

After 21 years producing Adult Partridge Rock winners at such shows as Boston, New York, Chicago, etc., I now offer their minatures to the public in Bantam form.

If you enjoy the Beauty and Usefulness of the larger Partridge Rocks but are limited for room, try Partridge Rock Bantams in your back yard. Clean wholesome pets for your Boy or Girl.

(S. B. P. A.)

Member

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Aesthetic Poultryman

Freeport, Illinois
52 N. Mernitz Ave.

A WOMAN'S SUCCESS WITH PARTRIDGE ROCKS

By MRS. FERN SMITH, Walnut Grove, Mo.

I have been asked to write an article on Partridge Plymouth Rocks. And of course we must not fail to help boost Partridge Rocks this way, for it surely is to the interest of every Partridge Rock breeder to do so. Of course, I am a poor writer. I can always talk much better than I can write, but I can always praise the Partridge Rocks.

I began breeding Partridge Rocks about twelve years ago after the death of my husband. I came to live with my parents and as I have always loved the chicken business I decided to raise chickens and hatch and sell baby chicks and sell hatching eggs. The next thing was what kind I should select. I had seen and helped raise several kinds but I had never seen a Partridge Rock. My mother had at that time Brown Leghorns. They were not at all what I wanted in a fowl. At this time a friend of mine had ordered fourteen hens and a cockerel of Partridge Rocks. She asked me to go with her to the depot for them as it was late. When the train came into our station, it was a beautiful moonlight night and we both were very anxious to see the new breed of chickens. Let me tell you that I decided by the light of the moon they were the chickens for me, so right then and there I booked my order for eggs. Bright and early the next morning I went over to see the Partridge Rocks in daylight. That made me more enthusiastic than ever.

It wasn't but a short time until I owned those fourteen hens and cockerel and I have been breeding them ever since and will continue to do so for I am stronger for them every day.

They are beautiful to look at, they are wonderful producers, they make fine large capons, the hens are wonderful mothers, they are very healthy, sturdy and vigorous, and they are a wonderful table fowl, they will help you foot expenses. I put my daughter through high school and my Partridge Rocks paid the bills, and many others, clothed us and still continue to do so.

I do not try to keep quantity, but quality. I do all my own cleaning, have four houses to care for. But that is a pleasure for all the time I can see those beautiful birds, some on their nest, some at the feeder, some at water troughs. They are so gentle to handle and care for and those big brown eggs are so delicious. The first year I began raising Partridge Rocks I still had a few Leghorns and a cousin of mine came from town to visit us so I cooked eggs and he could tell the Partridge Rock eggs from Leghorn, said they were so much better and richer in flavor.

I still hatch and sell baby chicks and eggs. I have many satisfied customers, and a satisfied customer I consider is a good advertisement so I always try to do my best to please. I try to make my prices so that most any one can afford to buy and get good stock, too. I appreciate any orders

given me, either large or small, and I surely will try at all times to please. So if there is any one undecided about Partridge Rocks just get some chicks, eggs or breeding stock from a breeder you think has what you want and try them. I am sure you will be delighted and will continue to breed them after you once make the start.

I use the single mating. I always select my best birds, both male and female, best type, color, pencilling and everything that goes to make a good Partridge Rock for breeding purposes and market the poor ones, or caponize the males and market the females.

I select my flocks as uniform in color and size as I can get them. Another fine thing about this variety is that you can tell pullets from cockerels as soon as they are hatched and dry. The pullets are solid brown and cockerels have two white or cream stripes down their backs. In this way one can figure somewhat on how many pullets you will have at maturity.

Will not make my article too long, but I could just keep on singing praise to Partridge Plymouth Rocks, the finest ever, as I feel I am being more successful every day with them.

THE PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS ARE STEADILY ADVANCING

PATTERNED FOR MEAT, EGGS AND BEAUTY, MAKES THEM
POPULAR WITH BREEDERS AND FANCIERS EVERYWHERE

By D. M. BARCUS, Tiffin, Ohio.

Some people say that the Partridge Plymouth Rock breed of chickens are not advancing; that they are just a fanciers breed and will never be one of the greatest breeds of poultry. But if you will follow, along with me for a few minutes I think that I can convince you that they will be one of the greatest breeds and also that the time is not far off. This breed has not been making much progress for some time back for two reasons; one reason now having been overcome and the other one is not of such great importance. These reasons are that until about a year ago the specialty club was much too inactive; the other reason is that the fowl cannot get publicity from engravings of the breed displayed in the poultry magazines because these birds will not take any picture that will do them justice, hence our breeders do not send the photos to the publishers.

Partridge Rocks could never stay out of the front ranks of poultrydom even if they had a dozen drawbacks. No person can resist stopping to take a look at a good flock of Partridges because of their outward beauty. They have in the last few years developed Rock shape that is supreme. Originating from Partridge Cochins and Games only about twenty years ago,

you would think that their shape would be very poor, but through the greatest care in selecting their breeding birds the lovers of this bird have already given their shape nearly where it belongs. The birds are built rather heavy for Plymouth Rocks but really look no larger than the other varieties. It is the width of their backs and breasts together with their "Cochin" bones that make them a little heavier than their cousins the other Plymouth Rocks. Then in color they will attract the attention of anyone that is in the least interested in poultry. The female with her light-mahogany feathers, each one being well pencilled with narrow black stripes following the feather-edge, and a rich red hackle well striped with greenish black. Red eye, single comb, exceptionally yellow legs and her great carriage makes a bird that is a true wonder. The male bird at first sight does not seem quite as beautiful as the female, but on closer examination you will find this sex to be really the most beautiful with a rich red saddle and hackle well striped with black and his back a very rich mahogany with the same black striping that is found in the hackle and saddle. This alone would really make him a beautiful specimen but just as a sign painter must shade his letters to give them the finished appearance so must a cock-bird get his last touch of beauty. In a Partridge Rock this comes in the wonderful greenish-black tail and breast. They seem to give the bird a kingly appearance he would otherwise lack.

One of the greatest things that is helping to put the Partridge Rocks on the front rank is the fact that although the male and female are of the most different color scheme, they are easily produced by the single mating system. There are about nine tenths of the breeders that use this system but some believe that they can produce better stuff by using the double-mating plan. The writer does this and will tell how he picks his birds for each pen. First, to produce good females, a male bird that is very rich in color is used. For this a bird that has some red running like pencilling around the breast feathers and if possible a little pencilling on the wing-low is a good bird to head the pen. The females in a pen to produce good females should be of good rich color with as good pencilling in the fluff and body as possible. This is the weak place in the color of the female; so try most to improve it. Also try to get females that show some pencilling in the hackle as it will strengthen the pencilling in the next generation and this color in the neck is no fault in the show room if it does not look too much like a whole red feather. The male bird is best produced by mating as near an ideal specimen to females that have clear hackles. One thing to watch is to get a male bird that has the red in his hackle running well around the end of the feather because if this is not watched the birds next generation will develop a black cape. Many people have bred for color alone and have forgotten all about shape, but this cannot be neglected in the least. It is a good policy in mating to throw out all the birds that are a little weak in their shape first thing and then sort the rest over for color. Lots of people say that they could never mate a pen of these birds and get

any results but the variety has got to the stage where if you get your start from a reliable party it will be an easy job to mate them and you will be surprised at the good specimens you will get.

Only a few years ago it was very seldom that any of our Partridge Rocks appeared in even the largest shows but now they are right there and usually a good lot of line birds. Often they win specials over the whole show which proves that they are getting on the level with the other breeds of poultry. Not only are they on the level with the rest of the chicken family but they are advancing at the fastest pace of probably any other variety. Even back in 1910 and 1911 Partridge Rocks won at national egg-laying contests and since the first ones have been in existence they have been trapnested and bred to lay all the year around. The breed was originated about the time that people began to realize what trapnesting really meant to the commercial poultryman and they have come right along with the trapnesting idea and now, as from the first, stand in the front rank as high egg producers.

The Partridge Rock belongs to the class of chickens that were patterned for egg production and meat purposes and so are of great demand. Thank the Lord that they do not belong to that big class of chickens that never lay many eggs, and I am also thankful that they do not belong to the Mediterraneans that never get large enough but that it takes about four of them for a chicken dinner. When I think of these little chickens I think of the article I read not long ago by Ring Lardner who said that the screen on his front porch was of a size so the mosquitoes could get through it on an empty stomach but could not get back through it after they had feasted on him for a while. So it seems with the small chickens, they can get through the fence when they are hungry but it seems impossible to get them back in after they get out once.

The one thing that is helping the Partridge Rocks is the Partridge Rock Club. Until the last year they have not been of much importance but now they have a real wide awake secretary who in one year has pulled the club up and out of their old rut and since I feel sure that he will be re-elected I am depending on a big boost for the whole breed. The Club is to hold a National Meet at the Chicago Coliseum Show this year and are striving to make this the greatest display of Partridges ever cooped. So let's all give a lift. If you are a member help with the club work and if you are not a member don't go to bed tonight until you have sent in your application.

What do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult to each other?
—G. Eliot.

“What are diplomatic relations, father!”
“There are no such people, my boy.”

—The Law Student.

VIEW OF THE PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK FROM ALL ANGLES

By R. LeROY ARMITAGE, Freeport, Illinois.

This is the season of fall fairs, and when we consider the fact that thousands of people pass through the poultry buildings of these exhibitions during Fair time, it is well that the Partridge Rock fanciers wake up to the great advertising value of such exhibits and enter a few of their birds for display. Not only at their local or county fairs, but at state, national and even world exhibits. Of course, the autumn exhibition may not appeal to the fancier as much as the winter show but it will do wonders towards advancing the variety as well as give ourselves much publicity.

Could one be perched high in one of these poultry exhibition buildings where he might unobservedly watch the visitors below as they come and go past the coops of poultry on display. I believe he would perceive more people stop and express themselves in "Partridge Rock Alley" than any other aisle of the show-room.

The variety attracts and there are a number of Partridge Rock exhibitors about their exhibits ready to explain the merits of the breed. Here's just one example: Mrs. Smith, of Tennessee, enters the show-room at the Michigan State Fair, and after walking up and down the aisles of several varieties in search of an ideal fowl for her farm home, she spies Partridge Rock Alley and explains with a smile of satisfaction, "What beautiful and attractive birds."

Immediately Mr. Partridge Rock breeder and fancier from New York State, alert to his opportunity of explaining the beauty of the breed, sets forth on the following speech:

"Yes, madam, they ARE beautiful. If you love the wild birds, the quail, partridge or pheasant, you cannot help but admire the beautiful Partridge Plymouth Rock plumage. From the day the baby chick hatches until it matures, its feathering is interesting and much like the quail. Even the sex of the day old chick may be determined by the stripes or the absence of stripes upon the backs of the youngsters. The Gallus Bankiva, from which all domestic poultry is supposed to have originated, was marked very similarly to the Partridge, thus proving the latter to be Nature's color, and not a creation of man. And for this reason it reproduces remarkably well. Even by the single mating system. The fowls of this color always look clean and never require washing for the show room. The color improves from year to year and the youngsters cannot easily be seen by hawks. And this beautiful feathering placed on Plymouth Rock type makes them the ideal fanciers fowl. The beauty of the black and red male with the female of mahogany plumage and black pencilling, I am sure will appeal to you as a fancier."

"But perhaps they are good only for fine feathers and poor layers," Mrs. Smith remarked inquiringly.

"Not on your tin-type!" replied Mr. Jones, another Partridge Rock exhibitor from Wisconsin, who had overheard the conversation. "I am a farmer and keep Partridge Rocks for utility purposes and assure you they've got to show a profit or we wouldn't keep them ten minutes. My wife could tell you better than I, but I know some of those Partridge Rock pullets begin laying when a little over four months old and keep it up steadily all through the winter months when eggs are highest. And they lay big eggs too, and nice brown shelled ones. Why, we take several cases to the grocer every week and not only keep our household in groceries and clothing but manage to put a little into the bank besides. All from this Partridge Rock flock. And we sell lots of settings of eggs and baby chicks and cockerels. Of course, on the farm we don't have time to trapnest."

"I do," came the voice of another Partridge Rock exhibitor from Indiana. "A few years ago my health failed me in my office down town and I was obliged to seek out of door work. I purchased a little 5-acre tract and began breeding and trapnesting Partridge Rocks. I now have developed a strain far above the 200-egg mark and ship fancy table eggs to one of the largest hotels in Indianapolis. Partridge Rocks won egg-laying contests back in 1910 and 1911 and I know they can do it again. Come see my exhibit."

So the exhibitor led Mrs. Smith to the egg show in another corner of the room where he related with pride his winnings with Partridge Rock eggs, including several prize ribbons for best dozen eggs, best dozen brown eggs, most uniform dozen, heaviest dozen etc.

As they walked back to Partridge Rock alley, Mrs. Smith asked, "How are they for a meat chicken?" At this time still another Partridge Rock breeder answered the inquiry.

"I have a broiler and capon farm in Ohio and supply broilers, roasters and capons for the dining-car service on one of our leading railroads. I use Partridge Rocks exclusively because I find them to mature quickly on as little feed as compared with other varieties. Their yellow skin is exceptionally tender because most strains contain one-third Cornish Indian Game Blood which also adds to their activity as foragers. They often reach 8 pounds in seven and a half months." And he, too, gave proof with his winnings in the dress poultry exhibit.

"Are they tame?", asked Mrs. Smith again. At this time a little girl exhibitor from Oklahoma answered:

"I keep Partridge Rocks in our back yard just for fun. I take care of them after school and find them to be the most wonderful pets, so clean and pretty. And the old mother hen with her babies is so cute, although she soon leaves her babies to start laying again and she isn't given to setting very often, but when she does, she makes a dandy mother. They won't fly over a fence that is very high. I love my Partridge Rock pets."

Mrs. Smith, having made all the inquiries she could think of regarding the beautiful fowl said, "I thank you Partridge Rock breeders for all your kind information, but I must go home and think it over before I select any breed."

She passed on through the show room and heard much the same story from the breeders of other varieties until she began to think it was all "bunk." Still there was something about Partridge Rock beauty that appealed to her. She went back to her farm home in Tennessee and began to think over the matter. She had viewed Partridge Rocks from all angles and in every case they seemed to satisfy. She must find a fowl that paid in all branches since her husband had died and she must now make a living for three small children on the country estate that he had left her. She determined to try Partridge Rocks and so ordered a pen of prize birds from one of the exhibitors she had seen at the fair and in the following spring ordered several settings of eggs from another exhibitor at the same fair.

Three years have passed since Mrs. Smith started with Partridge Rocks and one day the secretary of the Partridge Rock Club received the following:

"Three years ago at the Michigan State Fair I searched the aisles of the poultry building for an ideal fowl that would meet all the purposes on my farm here in the state of Tennessee. The Partridge Rock exhibitors at this fair were very kind in giving me plenty of information regarding their breed, but I must admit I considered part of it "bunk." However I have given this variety a three-year trial and from all angles I find them meeting all requirements and they are profitable. Please enroll me as a member of the Partridge Rock Club and enter my subscription to the Club Magazine. I am a Partridge Rock booster for the rest of my life."

Do good to thy friend to keep him, to thy enemy to gain him.

—Franklin.

Friendship: "A person who knows us—and still likes us."

—The Christian Register.

Speaking of unemployment, the average man has 12,000,000,000 brain cells.—Life.

"A bird in the hand is vulgar. Use a knife and fork."—Poultry Item.

The difficulty in life is the choice.—George Moore.

Prof.: There are at least two sides to everything.

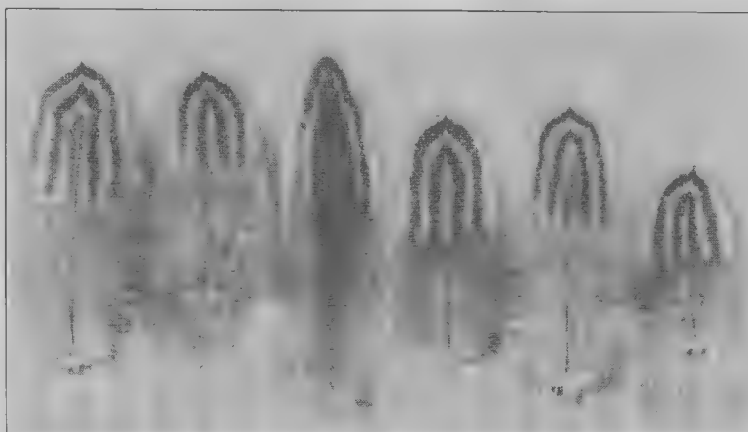
Student: Sir, have you ever seen a girl's bathing suit?

—Cackle & Crow.

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Partridge Plymouth Rocks

Win Covetous Prizes—At Great Shows



Pullet Plumage. First Pullet.
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Brown Winter Eggs.

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QUALITY OUR AIM—THE STANDARD OUR GUIDE
OLDENBURG, INDIANA.
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

IMPROVEMENT IN PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

MACK T. MARSHALL, Sevierville, Tennessee.

"After breeding Partridge Plymouth Rocks for 15 years I find them more interesting all the time. Each year I have something new to study; each year I find some improvement I want to make, not that it is so hard to breed a good Partridge Rock, but there may be some older breeds of chickens that are bred a little nearer perfection and will breed a little nearer uniform in color but if you have good birds properly mated and give them the right kind of attention you certainly can grow some fine show specimens in the Partridge Rock variety.

"Each year marks a great advancement with Partridge Plymouth Rocks. Each year they are growing nearer perfection and each year they must grow nearer perfection. I believe in the past ten years there has been as great improvement in Partridge Plymouth Rocks the world over as any other breed or variety of chickens and more than many others. Disqualifications are showing up less and less, the color both in males and females is much better, the pencilling of the female has been greatly improved, the shanks are showing much more yellow and they breed as true to Rock shape as any of the other Rock varieties. In fact, I think everything about the Partridge Plymouth Rock has improved and I am sure they are fast coming to the place where they will win their part of the championships in the show room.

"We, as breeders and exhibitors, should work hard for championships as this will boost the breed more and more. It has been said that a perfect bird of any other breed has never been raised, yet we should strive to breed them as near perfect as possible and by studying each bird and marketing all that are not high scoring show birds and good layers as well we can greatly improve any breed of chickens. We, as Partridge Rock breeders should do this and make our matings very carefully and I see no reason why they will not soon take their place in the show room and laying contests with any other breed or variety.

"Now in closing I will say let us all work to breed better Partridge Plymouth Rocks next year than we have ever bred before and some time some one may breed a perfect Partridge Plymouth Rock."

Money is like manure, of very little use except it be spread.

—Sir Francis Bacon.

As long as man has something to do he is likely to be happy.

—Roy Chapman Andrews.

PIRIE'S

PEERLESS

PARTRIDGE

PLYMOUTHS

Winners at five National Club Meets
Chicago, Madison Square Garden,
Boston, Iowa City.

DR. W. J. PIRIE

Breeder-Fancier,
SPRINGVILLE, IOWA.

EFFICIENCY COUNTS

—Our—

PARTRIDGE ROCKS

—Are—

efficient producers of **BIG BROWN EGGS** and **TASTY MEAT**. They're **BEAUTIFUL**, too. Bred to the **STANDARD** and **MOST VIGOROUS**. An order will prove our statements.

Thos. E. Thompson
OXFORD, OHIO.

Member
American Legion and American
Partridge Plymouth Rock Club.

STONEY'S PARTRIDGES

HARDY IOWA STOCK

Developed from a combination of
two of the finest flocks.

A few choice Cockerels for sale
this fall, 1931.

Dr. H. W. Stonebrook
ELDORA, IOWA.

RAISING PARTRIDGE ROCKS

By DR. W. J. PIRIE, Springville, Iowa.

When I received a letter from Mr. Armitage, asking me to write something for the Journal on "How I Raised My Boston Winners," I just thought, how can I write? then I thought of his enthusiasm and I was ashamed to refuse. So here goes. It is a long, long story about those birds, beginning years ago when I was breeding Partridge Cochins when they were popular. One year in particular I raised some wonderful males with fine red wing bows and beautiful red hackles and saddles with a wonderful stripe. They were sired by a fine bright colored male and out of a wonderful shaped hen, but of that light shade of color which I now would call bay. At that time mahogany was the desired color for females. This mating opened my eyes and I began really raising some good colored males.

So when I began breeding the Partridge Rocks I still had that old mating in mind, but the judge favored the dark birds, but I always kept a light mating stored away, as I felt that some day somebody would want some of that bay color. So when the Standard changed to bay it was not hard to switch over. And that was just the mating that produced 1-2 cockerel, 4 pullet, 2 hen at Boston.

1st cock was from a darker mating but he has a wonderful stripe and carries a grand even color. He was five years old at Boston and at this writing looks as though he would make somebody step this season. This cock mated on real light females produces fine color males but the females are rather too light but carry fine pencilling. These females in turn mated with fine red males produce that rich red in males that seem to catch the eye of a critical judge. I find that a female that tends to cushion produces good backs on her male offspring. I avoid high tails in either sex as I find birds with that defect tend to short backs.

I'm producing good birds of both sex from single mating, but I know that certain hens produce better males than females and vice versa, so in mating I use males that will strengthen that tendency in the offspring. That may be double mating; if so, I'm practicing it to more or less extent.

My birds are all hatched under hens and toe marked and when old enough are given free range.

But that is another story and if this one is taken kindly I may try another.

Look over the whole record of history and you will find that the men who have been of real benefit to their fellows are not the critics who pointed out and exaggerated the evil in their neighbors, but the men of strong sympathies who recognized what was good.—Nuggets.

WHOSE CHERRY IS RED?

By SHADE

How many colors have cherries? The latitude is as varied as the varieties of cherries or the section which they may grow in, the tree or geographic location. Whose mahogany is brown or reddish brown? This depends largely from which country the mahogany comes from and the brand of stain used by the finishers. It is always therefore an open question with the breeders of Partridge Rocks to know just the color to breed or show and the colors will vary in show classes according to the individual opinion of the judge of the class. The Standard leaves it optional to a great extent with the judge to say what is mahogany brown or cherry red and he can hardly go wrong on any shade if he desires to fall back on various colors of cherries, or man's artificial color of mahogany.

The question for the breeders to determine is a color that will prove most satisfactory for the benefit of the breed that does not require double mating to produce—is this to be the lighter shade, the medium or the darker? We must fix our ideas and it should be done from a viewpoint of bettering results. The lighter shades are objectionable for the reasons the male will run yellow in hackle and saddle and quite apt to run mossy and shafty. The darker shades have their advantage in clear cut pencilling and less shafting—and many cherry colors referred to. It would therefore seem sensible to select the medium shades as to the exact color and it must be standardized so the breeder and the judge can agree. As it has proven necessary to meet the views of many judges to show several colors and it is high time the breeders tell the judges the proper colors in place of judges who not one in fifty ever raised a Partridge Rock, looking wise and telling us the proper color.

Shape there is no question on. Unless Rock type you haven't a Partridge Rock. There is no question on other Standard qualifications except possibly a clear hackle in the female, which in my opinion is not possible in single mating, and if not, a clear hackle is not as good for breeding fine pencilled females as the mottled hackles. It is possible to get a certain per cent of clear hackle females; it is more than probable their clear hackles will show strong shafting, which is much more of a detriment than the mottled hackle. The sooner the club members agree on color for male and female, the question of clear or mottled hackle and the question of white in tail and wing the sooner our judges will know how to judge Partridge Rocks and the sooner we can call them and the show management if they do not have competent judges.

There is a tendency among the show managements to decide awards regardless of merit and while this is a nice thing for the show it is not always satisfactory and beneficial to the breed and club members should see that the best birds win and if rank decisions are made report the judge to

secretary of the club for future reference. We may be able to enlighten as we all must learn. Before doing so, however, be sure that you are right.

Now, club members, we must select the color of the cherry and the mahogany. We can get the color selected without double mating. The breeders must build up their ideals and not the non-breeding judges. They simply see the surface and the under color and not one in one hundred judges know how to breed them for results. The day will come, however, and there are a number of judges who now know a good shape and colored Partridge Rock. Let there be more of them.

CLEAR HACKLED FEMALES

By F. N. PERKINS

Friend —— in the last issue of the Quarterly regrets the change in the Standard from clear to mottled hackle. While I assume Mr. —— is thoroughly sincere in his belief that it cheapens the breed and makes it much easier to breed them, from my observation and knowledge of other parti-colored fowls I am at a loss to understand how the clear hackle can be depended upon without double mating. This is so evident in the Brown Leghorn that there is no argument left. The fact that clear hackles are demanded by the Standard has forced the breeders of the Brown Leghorn to double mate and any reliable breeder of that fowl will tell you it is one of the hardest breeds to reproduce reliably. The coloring of the male in the Brown Leghorn is about what is being advocated for the Partridge Rocks and we find it possible to get the color without double mating. I have seen a few females of good marking with clear hackles and I claim, and believe I am right, that they will never produce good pencilled females and such marked females are to a great extent sports. Again, I have seen the clear hackled females that would barely be recognized as a Partridge Rock, being too dark, mossy, shafty and other defects. It has never been my pleasure to see in a show room a Partridge Rock, neither a Partridge Wyandotte, with a clear hackle, even when the Standard called for it. If it is the desire of the Partridge Rock breeders to double mate simply to get clear hackles and cover two distinct strains to produce one breed, then in my opinion, adopt the clear hackle and produce one good show bird in fifty as is the case in the Brown Leghorn. It is quite unnatural for a fine pencilled female to throw a clear hackle and the man who attempts to force nature against her will have a job entirely too strenuous for the best breeders, much less the average, and what is the use anyway? If Friend —— is right, to force on the breed something that has not been accomplished as yet, except in rare occasions, then it is dollars and cents the cause of

the clear hackle could not be traced to, or even reproduced again, from the same pen, unless by double mating.

If we as a club are going to advocate one method of breeding and adopt certain changes that make it impossible to produce by single mating, then I say, no more Partridge Rocks for me, as never will I attempt to double mate any breed for the sake of a whim which is more often detrimental to the breed than otherwise. Those who are familiar with the trouble the Barred Rock men have on double mating is sufficient warning in my opinion to steer clear from any course requiring double mating. If Mr. _____ can enlighten us how he can produce even twenty per cent clear hackled females with clear cut pencilling, free of shafting and other defects, I will doff my hat to him, if produced from one pen and from the same birds. I can see where it might be possible to produce better male birds from clear hackled females and if they were well pencilled and otherwise strong in every way, it might strengthen the male, but there is not much trouble today to produce a high standard male and the females are improving amazingly, as any breed with age and proper understanding regarding mating and color desired.

What is much more essential in my opinion is to define colors, so that we can have some uniformity. Some prefer the dark, others the medium and some the lighter shades. If we, as a club, could agree on a color and stay by it there would be more accomplished than trying to produce clear hackle. Some one start the color ball rolling. What should be the colors of the male and the female? Who has the nerve to say what he claims are the proper color?

PARTRIDGE ROCK COLOR

By DR. W. J. PIRIE, Springville, Iowa.

What do you mean, "Bay"? That's what we want to know. What is Bay or Reddish-Bay? We hear so much discussion, especially at the poultry shows, as to just what constitutes Bay color. One man gave this as his answer: "Why, it's the color of a Bay horse." Sure it is, but what bay? Do you know we have bay, light bay, dark bay, medium bay, bright bay, etc., to the end, so that doesn't tell us much.

Judges differ somewhat on this point, and lucky is the exhibitor who knows what the judge likes, or rather, his interpretation of "bay." This, of course, should not be, but we can do our bit to remedy this. We know that the old mahogany female is not what we want, we know the lemon colored birds are wrong so it's up to us to show the bird removed from these colors. If we select the bay with the reddish shade, we mean a color that, when viewed from a little distance, does not look like a red but clearly shows the pencilling of the Partridge. The pencilling that a stranger

colored will pick out and notice on sight is usually far enough removed from the mahogany to be called bay. We might even tolerate a light bay if the pencilling is distinct. The black pencilling should be rather a dull black, not the greenish shade so often seen, nor should it be purple as that spoils the proper effect of the pencilling.

To get this pencilling, remember, you must have a good wide feather and wide enough to carry three or more pencillings conforming to the shape of the feather. This pencilling should be smooth, that is, free from kinks and ragged edging and also as free as possible of shafting. Remember, that this pencilling is what makes a Partridge, so while you may sacrifice color somewhat, be sure you have the pencilling. So if we have an even color throughout—neck, back, body and thighs, topped out with a reddish bay eye and yellowish beak—we surely have a thing of beauty, while nice yellow shanks and feet are indicative of a yellow skin so much liked by the Americans.

Let us all fit some birds for the Club Meet at Chicago and show the world what a real beautiful bird we have, and make the greatest Partridge Rock show ever staged.

PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK COLOR AND MARKINGS

By LAURENCE C. ALLEN, Sanford, Maine.

It is not surprising that Partridge Plymouth Rocks, ever since their recognition by the American Poultry Association in 1909, have been subject to divergent views as to the ideal Partridge color, both in respect to the male and as to the female. We find decided contrasts between the Partridge male and female in their colors as well as in their markings or feather patterns.

Let us first consider the color and markings of the Partridge Rock male. The ideal Partridge Rock male of today carries two outstanding colors, RICH, BRILLIANT RED AND GREENISH-BLACK, and the RED should be of MEDIUM SHADE.

When we note the striking changes in the color requirements in the 1915 and later editions of the American Standard of Perfection in contrast to those of the old 1910 Standard, it is little wonder that considerable confusion existed in the mind of every Partridge Judge as to know what was what. The old 1910 Standard called for a "bright red" in the Partridge male—did this mean a red so light as to border on the yellow; or would a somewhat darker shade do, so long as it glistened; or what did it mean? Some Judges interpreted it as an extremely light, faint red, while others chose the other extreme, a resplendent dark red. The old 1910 Standard, in one

breath, stipulated that the male's wing, wing-bows, and back should be "dark" red, while the saddle should be "bright" red, with lustrous greenish-black stripes, etc. Since the old Standard actually called for extremes in colors in adjacent parts of the Partridge male we can readily sympathize in the predicament that the early Judges found themselves. At best that description was too vague and indefinite.

The modern, 1930 edition of the Standard of Perfection affords us considerable relief in determining the proper Partridge male colors. It demands a medium shade of rich, brilliant red edging on the male's neck (hackle) feathers and the SAME rich, brilliant red on his wing-bows, back, and saddle feathers. Here we find much greater definiteness of description and uniformity of color. "Rich" must mean to all of us a soft, abounding or vivid (not a faint, or harsh, or glaring) red; and "brilliant" red adds another qualifying element, being a "burning" or "gleaming" red, rather than just a shining red. It is, of course, easy for different opinions to arise as to what constitutes the proper MEDIUM SHADE of red in the male. This much is certain—orange, yellowish, lemon, or straw hues are NOT wanted, neither are light and dark extremes. An intense, burning red of brilliant lustre comes nearer to the "happy medium shade." The rich, brilliant red forms the predominant surface color of the male, a narrow fringe of this color bordering his neck or hackle, back, and saddle feathers. A solid, lustrous greenish-black center stripe of moderate width is found in these particular feathers. The center stripes should come to a point rather than run into the rich, brilliant red edging, especially at the tip of the feather. There should be a distinct contrast between the red edging and the greenish-black center striping. The fringe should be a soft, lustrous red, with a rich, burning quality. The center stripes should be solid and unbroken, with a greenish-black lustre or sheen, and should appear even in the smaller feathers near his head. The striping in the broad feathers of his back and saddle will, of course, be much broader than in the hackle. But a tendency towards narrow stripings in each of these sections appears desirable. The stripes always should be clear-cut, solid, fine in texture, and lustrous.

Upon turning to the wings of the Partridge Rock male, we find that his wing-bow feathers are a rich, brilliant red without black markings. The feathers here are short and the red markings are arrow-shaped. The male's back and wing-bow feathers have a tendency to be darker than medium red, but uniformly medium red is called for and is attainable in the best specimens. When the wings are folded, there should be a well-defined greenish-black wing-bar just below the wing-bow. Undesirable purplish feathers must be avoided as much as possible. The primaries are black with narrow, reddish-bay (that is, reddish-brown) lower edges. A wider strip of reddish-brown runs along the outside webs of the secondary feathers, terminating with greenish-black at the end. It seems prudent to allow some traces of brown in the upper webs of the male's primaries and secondaries. The secondaries, when folded, form a beautiful reddish-brown triangle.

The triangle or wing-bay should not be lighter than medium and is seldom lustrous. The wing fronts should be black with a strong greenish lustre. Brown tinges are permitted in the breast, fluff, and the rear body feathers of the male with a lustrous greenish-black ground color. His sickles and coverts are also lustrous greenish-black. The modern Standard also permits, and wisely so, a slight shafting of rich red in the quills of the male feathers. The inner or fluff parts of the quills will, of course, border more on a slate color so as to harmonize with the slate (that is, dark bluish-gray) undercolor. The Standard still calls for a "lustrous black" male breast. It really seems most natural and best, however, to allow for a greenish-black breast, as it blends well with the greenish-black stripes in the hackle, back, saddle, and sickle feathers of the Partridge male.

A male that carries uniformly rich, brilliant red throughout his neck, saddle, back and wing-bows produces a truly beautiful surface effect. Clear-cut wing-bars of solid, lustrous greenish-black and a lustrous greenish-black breast, body, and fluff with greenish sheen, affords an enhancing contrast to his magnificent red surface beauty. When the proper MEDIUM SHADE is established, the finesse of a specimen will center around the clarity of his center stripes, the evenness of his surface color, the soundness of his slate undercolor, especially at the root of his tail and neck feathers, and freedom from reddish-brown tinges in breast and fluff and from purplish hues. Too much black at the base of the neck feathers, near the shoulder, detracts from what otherwise may be a splendid male.

Upon referring to the Standard qualifications for the ideal Partridge Rock female, we find that equally divergent views have arisen with respect to her color as we have noted in regard to the male. The ideal Partridge Rock female of today should have a uniformly MEDIUM SHADE of her predominant ground color of DEEP REDDISH-BAY with crescentic black pencillings.

The older editions of the American Standard of Perfection, when Partridge Plymouth Rocks were first brought into recognition and prominence as a distinct variety of the Plymouth Rock breed of poultry, called for a "bright red" neck, a lustrous "black stripe" in the center of the neck feathers, and for a dominant "mahogany brown" ground color in the Partridge female. Fortunately, the later revisions of the Standard brought about greater uniformity in the female color and pattern descriptions, as also happened to the Partridge male. The modern, 1930 Standard calls for "reddish-bay neck feathers, with slight pencillings of deep reddish-bay" and for "deep reddish-bay with distinct pencillings of "black" as the predominant Partridge female color. The old "black neck stripe" in the female certainly was a serious impediment to Single Mating of Partridge Rocks and marred the beauty of the female pencilling. The expression "deep reddish-bay" to designate the dominant Partridge female color may convey more meaning than the original "mahogany-brown" term, but the meaning still is vague and confusing. The modern Standard might well have employed the full ex-

pression "A MEDIUM SHADE OF RICH, DEEP REDDISH-BROWN," we believe, in describing the ideal and predominant Partridge female color. A "medium shade" is necessary to develop a common and uniform interpretation of the dominant female color, thereby avoiding light and dark extremes. The words "bay," "mahogany," and "reddish-bay" all have the same intrinsic meaning of "REDDISH-BROWN," and since the term "REDDISH-BROWN" carries more significance and clearer meaning, it seems only advisable and prudent that this term should be adopted as the Standard expression for the dominant Partridge female color. "Richness" in the female is just as desirable as in the male. "Deep" is useful in signifying a strong or intense color, but is incomplete without the word "rich" before it. The Standard calls for "deep reddish-bay with distinct pencillings of black, outlines of which conform to the shape of the feathers in the back, breast, body, wing-bows, and thighs of the Partridge female (that is, each feather in those dominant parts of the female to have three or more distinct crescentic pencillings)." We, further, submit it to be an improvement in uniformity, and actuality if the next Standard will call for three or more distinct crescentic pencillings in the female neck feathers as well, rather than stipulate that they shall just be slightly pencilled." It is also unfortunate that the present Standard neglects to call for a MEDIUM SHADE of reddish-bay (i. e. reddish-brown), though a medium shade is commonly accepted as the ideal. Fortunately, nearly everyone acclaims intense or deep colors and richness. There is a danger in laying down colors in too rigid terms, but it does seem that the expression "RICH, DEEP REDDISH-BROWN OF MEDIUM SHADE" would help a lot in bringing about a uniform and accurate interpretation of the desired Partridge female color if this expression were officially adopted. In the last analysis, it remains for Judges and breeders alike to show their birds, to attend the shows, and freely exchange views—then real progress will be possible along the line of a harmonious description and interpretation of what the ideal color really is. It is quite necessary to maintain a proper contrast between the reddish-brown ground color and the intense black pencillings of the female. Too dark a ground color would make the pencillings hardly discernible. On the other hand, extremely light ground color would lack richness and would bring out unevenness in color. The finest Partridge females glow with uniform richness in reddish-brown (i. e. reddish-bay or mahogany-brown) surface color of distinctly medium shade, and have an abundance of fine, clear-cut crescentic pencillings. The ideal pencilling exists when the alternating black and reddish-brown lines are uniformly spaced (i. e. of equal width) and completely formed without raggedness, irregularity, vagueness, or coarseness.

Fineness and multiplicity of pencilling are generally most desired, though not at the expense of completeness, regularity, evenness, and clearness.

The Standard calls for pencillings of "black" in the Partridge female, without any qualification of the word "black." We wonder if it would not be an improvement to call for "deep black" pencillings. "Deep" signifies

a strong or intense black, the true black, and avoids an interpretation of "dull black" which is less attractive and really not so natural. A greenish-black with a lustre or sheen is more natural in Partridge plumage than just a plain dull-black, and the term "deep black" permits this lustre or sheen. And this greenish sheen also enhances the Single Mating system of breeding which is far more popular than a Double-Mating standard whereby separate matings are supposed to produce the best males and other separate matings are made for the best female offspring. We know from experience that we may obtain excellent males and females from one and the same mating, Single Mating system, when the foundation stock are suitably mated.

The Partridge female plumage is uniform in practically all sections, being alike in color and markings. We should note that the lower edges of the female primaries are clearly and regularly dotted with reddish-bay (i. e. reddish-brown) and that the pencilling of the female secondaries runs parallel to the edge nearly all through the lower web, instead of the full crescentic form of pencilling as in the above-mentioned dominant sections, but these differences merely emphasize the fact that the pencillings conform to the shape of the feathers. The Standard calls for black on the inner webs of the female secondaries, but slight tinges or dots of reddish-brown sometimes appear there. The female pencillings is apt to be weakest in the fluff, thighs, rear body, and neck feathers. As in the male, the female undercolor is "slate."

It isn't enough to point out that rich, deep color of medium shade is most desirable, or that the pencillings must be clear, even, and well-rounded. We should go further and state that the ideal pencillings should be moderately narrow and that the spaces between the reddish-brown and black lines should be respectively of even width. The wing-bar feathers are broader than the others, so the pencillings are naturally coarser there and not so abundant as in other sections of the female.

The Standard rules that "positive white in the main tail feathers, sickles, or secondaries, shall disqualify a specimen"; and that "gray or white in any except disqualifying sections of the plumage of all Partridge varieties shall warrant cuts from one-half a point to six points, depending upon the section where it is found." Certainly there is no place for "white" in the plumage of a high-class Partridge Rock, at least not to any noticeable extent, Light gray or cotton is still apt to appear in the undercolor and at the base of the hackle or neck feathers and of the tail feathers, particularly in the male. But so long as the pure white is avoided, we need not feel too seriously concerned about this problem.

Rich yellow beaks, shanks, and toes are attainable in the best Partridge Rocks, both in males and females—and the Standard should expressly call for just that. Their bright red combs, fares, wattles, and ear-lobes in both males and females happily blend with the rest of the Partridge colors.

Every Partridge Rock admirer and breeder may well observe that Partridge plumage is at its best when it carries lustre, brilliance, and richness; that the genuine medium shade of both male and female will best be determined by respectively procuring a proper contrast in the rich, brilliant red and the lustrous greenish-black of the male, and a proper contrast between the rich reddish-brown and the deep black of the female; and that the sparkling finesse comes only in specimens where there is a happy blending in color between male and female, and when the markings abound in moderate fineness, clearness, evenness, regularity, and completeness in both sexes.

No two specimens are identical and we should not bind the Judges under any dogmatic or arbitrary rules as to the exact shade or depth of colors. The Judges need certain powers of discretion in applying the Standard. Partridge colors and patterns are as beautiful as exist anywhere, and this phase of our favorites will always prove of vital interest.



"DIRIGO STRAIN"

1914-1931

PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

LIFE



MEMBER

An Ideal General-Purpose Fowl
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THE BEAUTIFUL AND ARTISTIC PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

PLUMAGE OF RICH COLORFUL BEAUTY COMBINED WITH AN
ARTISTIC DESIGN MAKES THIS BREED WORTHY
OF GREATER POPULARITY

By JOSEPH L. HOELKER, Oldenburg, Indiana.

Extolling the Partridge Plymouth Rock is indeed a great pleasure for me, because as a breeder of this grand breed, I wish to show the world that



"PENCILINE QUEEN"

A "Dirigo Strain"

Hen—Beau-Site farm

this distinguished member of the great Plymouth Rock family has one of the most beautiful and artistic color patterns in poultrydom today. Those who would doubt this statement will probably say that the Partridge Plymouth Rock should be more popular if it is such a beautiful and artistic fowl.

Fanciers of this breed can answer such critics by saying that primarily, the chief cause for the unpopularity of their favorite is the weak specialty club advertising its merits. That is a positive fact; for have we not often heard the statement that a breed is as strong as its specialty club? Theoretically, we can further state that the world in its mad rush for excessive commercialism has lost the virtue of appreciation for things artistical by leaving it in oblivion. This mad rushing commercial age is overshadowing the artistical, and is the constant cynosure of many an evil eye, the index of a greedy heart hungering for gold and glory. Such is the way of the world today, and the sooner it appreciates more the value of art, at least during its leisure hours, just so soon will a beautiful and artistic fowl like the Partridge



"PRANCING BEAUTY"

A Grand Beau-Site Farm

Cock Bird

Plymouth Rock rise to higher planes of popularity, where it will be greatly admired by the lovers of the beautiful in animate nature.

Excessive commercialism is therefore the danger spot which besets the lover of the animate nature as he travels on the highway of beauty and art

in search for such an exquisite fowl as the Partridge Plymouth Rock. Therefore, by writing this article I hope to eliminate everything that may lead the reader to the temptations of excessive commercialism by painting a picture in words of the beauty and art of my favorite.

To describe such a picture in words is a very difficult task in comparison with that of painting; for words do not make the same impression upon the mind of a person as the various colors of a painting impress upon the imagination. In this description of the beautiful and artistic Partridge Plymouth Rock, I will endeavor to describe their fascinating qualities in the best manner which my leisure hours will permit.

That old adage, "shape makes the breed; color the variety," can appropriately be adhered to as a guide as I am about to commence my description. Just as an artist would draw an outline of a Plymouth Rock before he would adorn it with its natural color, so I am going to describe the beauty of the shape of this breed before extolling the art of its feather color pattern.

The novice might ask, what is there so beautiful in the Plymouth Rock type? Show him the Standard of Perfection, and if he has any conception of graceful lines he will readily admit without any hesitancy that symmetry and gracefulness are personified in the contour of the Plymouth Rock, to such a marked degree that they may be called marvels of symmetry and gracefulness. Any breed possessing these characteristics may justly be termed beautiful.

As stated in the Standard the size of the Plymouth Rock is intermediate between the Asiatic and Mediterranean breeds, consequently the presence of beauty must be noticeable without the least difficulty. As a rainbow possesses beauty from one end of its crescentic form to the other especially in its center, so also has the Plymouth Rock beauty as it stands in the heart of the line of breed types. I will not go into detail about this type as the Standard is an open book to all those who wish to see beauty in the Plymouth Rock outline; besides the pages of this journal have already explained in well chosen words how this type should be in order to show beauty. However, before closing this paragraph let me whisper a word of advice to all Plymouth Rock breeders to breed their favorites in such a way that the type may conform as close to the Standard as possible. Let me emphasize the description the Standard gives regarding the shape of the back, which reads as follows: Back—"rather long, broad its entire length, flat at shoulders nearly horizontal from neck to saddle where there is a slight concave sweep to tail." Those last nine words add more beauty to the Plymouth Rock type for the simple reason that curves make beauty. It is not an easy matter to breed them up to these requirements, although the wording may lead you to thinking that it is just a trifle; but you must remember that "trifles make perfection, but perfection is no trifle." If this advice is strictly adhered to in the future it will go a long ways in making this useful type more beautiful in contour.

Having described the beauty of the Plymouth Rock type I will now proceed to portray the beautiful and artistic color combination which adorns this graceful and popular type. The male will be my first choice in this description as it is customary to mention him first when speaking of the sexes in the bird kingdom.

Now let us behold the beautiful color of the Partridge Plymouth Rock male. At first glance we will be attracted by his striking appearance as his brilliant array of colors sparkle before our eyes. Next we commence to admire the beauty of the various parts of his body. Our eyes will probably first focus upon his head where we see his red single comb, intelligent reddish eye, and a dark horn colored bill shading to yellow at the point. Then we notice the full flowing hackle, broad back and saddle gleaming with that rich brilliant red of medium shade with each feather striped with a greenish black stripe which lends artistic tone in such a natural way. The wing will next catch our eye by its brilliant color combinations. What a sight it makes, with a wing-bow of rich brilliant red, a well-defined greenish black bar coming next which extends across the width of the wing; and then next to that the reddish brown wing-bay which the secondaries form when folded. He can be justly proud of this triple color combination so magnificently designed when he sends forth his clarion voice; for it suggests an escutcheon bearing all the heraldic deeds of his race. As we have now beheld the gorgeous color of the hackle, back, saddle and wing, we next witness that these color combinations in their various hues are shaded with a greenish black breast and tail, and a fluff which is black tinged with red. After we notice the yellow legs supporting this array of colors we wonder with astonishment why a male with a coating of colors like the Partridge should go forth unheralded when the praises of the beautiful breed are sung.

Our eyes having feasted upon the beauty of the Partridge male we will now behold the beauty of the female. We notice, of course, that her coat of feathers is not as brilliant as that of the male, but when it comes to artistic value she occupies the spot light without any jealousy on the part of her mate. Her coat is a gorgeous outlay of pencilled feathers that bespeak that almost priceless combination—beauty and art. It is a combination which is a treat to the weary eye; a combination which any artist would enjoy to paint; and above all, it is a combination which is an open challenge to the present-day mad, rushing commercialism for the satisfaction of peace to our minds which God has given us by creating this beautiful breed through the hands of patient and skillful breeders. Is not the plumage a proof of art and beauty as you admire its reddish bay ground color, upon which is so artistically portrayed those distinct black crescentic pencillings conforming to the shape of the feathers? Indeed it is, and only by picking up a Partridge female will you realize to the fullest extent of your appreciation what a beautiful specimen of art animate nature presents to you. A fellow fancier of mine stated, that "when you pick up a Partridge female you are looking at something." That "something" means a great

deal; because when speaking from the standpoint of chickendom it is the sum total of art and beauty in all its meaning and significance.

In conclusion, let me say that the color combinations of both male and female, although different in design blend as harmoniously as do the colors of the leaves on the trees at Indian summer time with their many hues. It is my contention that an artist of international fame would sooner select an Indian summer scene for the painting of his masterpiece before he would choose a spring, summer or winter scene, because of the fact that an autumnal scene contains a wealth of artistic material to depict art on the canvas; for an artist's masterpiece must essentially possess real artistic value. For the same reason will many a lover of poultry in the future select the Partridge color which so appropriately shows to a good advantage on the Plymouth Rock type with its beautiful symmetrical lines that denote gracefulness. Partridge Plymouth Rock breeders, if you have had any doubts in the past whether your favorite will ever be popular, then it will be to your advantage to join the ranks of the optimistic at your earliest convenience; for the time is not far off when your favorite will enter the hall of popularity, the door of which it is now knocking to seek admission, which its beautiful and artistic plumage so justly deserves.

PARTRIDGE ROCKS—THEIR QUALITY AND HOW TO MATE THEM

By EDWARD A. HAMANN, Hamilton, Ohio.

This variety is surely one of the most beautiful and useful varieties of the Plymouth Rock breed. As an all-purpose fowl and for genuine beauty they are in the very front ranks of poultrydom. All black and red varieties are at a decided disadvantage for the reason that it is with the greatest difficulty that they can be properly presented by means of illustrations. Word pictures fail when it comes to delineating chickens. Even in describing the shape of a bird the average fancier talks with his hands. Nothing tells the story of a bird more completely, more truly, more forcibly than a good picture. Especially is this true of the detailed markings of the plumage but in those varieties which have a red ground color on which black is imposed, the camera fails in its purpose, for both red and black print black in the negative and the beautiful contrast is lost.

Few breeds of fowls can compare with Partridge Rocks as a general-purpose fowl, and only those who have bred them for any length of time know their true value. Much has been said of them as a table fowl, and in this they are surpassed by no other breed, their meat being very tender and juicy, even at an old age. March-hatched cockerels will weigh from nine to ten pounds in November.

As to their laying qualities, they rank with the best. Of course, there are certain strains, perhaps, that lay more than others, as is the case with all breeds. The Partridge Rocks are exceptionally good winter layers when eggs are scarce and high priced.

The Partridge is one of the most beautiful and useful varieties of the Plymouth Rock breed. The race is abundantly furnished with plumage and anyone who has noticed show feathering should see a flock of big-boned Partridge Rocks growing and note in particular their tails coming out with an abundance of coverts and lesser sickles, greenish black in color and ribbon-like in effect. The plumage of the male is handsome indeed—greenish black in breast, body, and tail, and this rich, glossy black color is placed in contrast and made conspicuous by comparison by a red neck and back, while through the long, flowing, richly colored neck and back feathers there runs a greenish black stripe. The females are red or mahogany color, each feather of all the body being magnificently marked with crescent pencillings of black.

For beauty, the Partridge Rocks excel all other breeds if well bred. The question is often asked: How should they be mated to produce high class birds that retain their beauty? We admit it is no easy task to breed high class birds of both sexes from a single mating unless one has two classes of females in this pen. For a mating of this kind I would take part of the females that have pencilling in hackle, and part that have a clear, greenish-black stripe in hackle. To them I would mate a male that has a rich red hackle and saddle, that shows a bit of pencilling in saddle and fluff, and plenty of bay coloring in outer edge of primaries. From such a mating we ought to produce some good males and females.

Most of the successful breeders, no matter what breed of fowls they breed, practice double matings, especially in parti-colored fowls, in some way. They get their show cockerels from one pen and their pullets from another, and they think they have a single mating. If you intend to compete with the successful breeders in the larger shows, I would say double-mate, that is, mate a pen to produce your exhibition males and another to produce your females.

For a mating to produce cockerels I would take the best male I had that follows the Standard of Perfection description and to him I would mate females that have red mahogany color in each pencilled section, rich red hackle with a greenish-black stripe in neck feathers. I like for the small feathers under the throat to be a very rich red. Such a mating should produce extra good exhibition males.

If we study nature and thoughtfully look into the bird kingdom, what do we see? We see that the males are of bright colors while the females are of dull color. But with our Partridge Rocks, we want to retain the beauty in the female also. Now then, we must have the color in the male that we desire to have in his pullets. We cannot expect to breed a male with a bright orange colored hackle and saddle and expect red mahogany

colored pullets. My experience has been, the tone of color I expect to produce in my pullets I must first have in their sire, and not only that but he must be bred from a well-pencilled hen with good red mahogany color. I would say the hackle and saddle of male should be a rich blood red in color, free from black edging but well striped, with a bit of pencilling, the striping not too broad, as the black pencilling of the female corresponds to the striping in the male. If the striping is too broad it will cause coarse pencilling in females. Most important, the male should be broad in feather in hackle, back and saddle, and have plenty of bay color in outer edge of primaries. Sometimes from the strongest pencilled female, especially well pencilled in back, we get cockerels that show a bit of pencilling in saddle, also quite a bit of red in breast and fluff, and I like to see that in the male to produce good pencilling in pullets. From such a male I produced a hen that won champion hen and special for best bird in show, all breeds competing, at Hamilton, Ohio, December, 1919. Judge Zike said she was the best pencilled bird he ever handled or saw, in his many years of judging, and if you follow the foregoing mating schedule you should be able to produce some very good exhibition females.

We cannot make a mistake if we line breed in families. That is, if we have a hen that is an exceptionally good breeder, we may put her in a pen with her best daughters mated properly to a good male of the same line, and their progeny will be more uniform. I double-mark my cockerels; that is, I toe mark them, when hatched, for the pen from which they come. Then about two months later, just before they lose their pencilling, and if they develop well otherwise, I select them as breeders.

Now, last but not least, let us note type and size. No matter how good the color we have or how good the pencilling, if we have this color on a Leghorn or Wyandotte for size or a Langshan for type, we have no Plymouth Rock. If we breed carefully for type, size and color, we can continue to hold our banner high as having a breed that is not only one of the most beautiful, but that is unexcelled for meat and eggs as well.

"There is nothing so satisfactory as a clear conscience."

"No," answered Senator Sorghum, "and the next best thing is a good lawyer."—Washington Star.

To get something for nothing demoralizes all effort.—

—David Starr Jordan.

"There goes the man who swindled me out of fifty grand."

"Yeah?"

"Yeah. He wouldn't let his daughter marry me."—V. M. I. Sniper.

Look to your health; and if you have it, praise God, and value it next to a good conscience.—Izaak Walton.

UTILITY MERITS OF PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

By F. J. HOELKER, Oldenburg, Indiana.



F. J. HOELKER
Oldenburg, Indiana.
Live-wire Breeder and Club Member.

Any domestic fowl, in order to attain permanent popularity must possess four essential points of merit; namely, a fairly good egg production, good meat quality, a hardy and vigorous constitution, and, last but not least, a color that wears well, and is not subjected to discrimination when marketed on account of plumage color.

EGG-PRODUCING ABILITY.

This point was selected as the first essential qualification, because from experience the writer knows, when the novice, or person not particularly interested in chickens, sees a breed or variety new to him, the first question is: What kind are they? Are they good layers? When they see a chicken, eggs are first thought of. When a fine lot of eggs attract them, their comment is of this nature: What kind of chicken laid these nice eggs?

As an egg producer the Partridge Rock is a diamond in the rough as yet. It possesses the value, but is not polished. When we study their ancestors and blood composition, we find them possessing a rich inherit-

ance; the bloods of the Brown Leghorn, Golden Pencilled Hamburg, Partridge Cochin, and Indian Game flowing in their veins, a fine blend, indeed.

Years ago, when special attention was not given to egg production, the Brown Leghorn was known far and wide as a layer of many eggs, the beautiful Hamburg was hailed the world over as the everlasting layer. It was through natural ability that these early breeds accomplished this without being especially bred for this purpose.

The excellent quality of meat of the Cochin and Indian Game are also incorporated in our Partridge Rocks, making them an ideal and practical combination of the best qualities of several varieties in one bird, with a magnificent coloring of feathers to boot.

The originators also used the above breeds to attain and fix certain shape, size and color pattern, but the fact remains, that egg-laying instinct is in inheritance, and remains with our Partridge Rock today. However, we can improve them as layers by trapnesting and systematic breeding. Any breeder in position to do this has a fortune awaiting him.

Perhaps my claims to production seem theoretical, nevertheless, facts can also be presented. Partridge Plymouth Rocks are raised in increasing numbers each year, while new farm flocks are continuously coming into existence. Those having them, hold on; for who would keep any kind of a fowl to compose the farm flock if they did not pay a reasonable profit? A very small percentage of the breeders or keepers of poultry could afford to feed them at a loss in the present days of efficiency.

Our Partridge Rock friends are neglecting the opportunity to take advantage of the official egg-laying contests, the only worth while method to prove a hen's production record to the poultry public. We do not wish to brag about our particular line but can frankly say that their performance is gratifying. We are not in position to trapnest our birds, but do keep accurate flock records, thereby knowing yearly average per hen. In 1927 we compared our average with a certain laying contest whose average was only seven eggs more than our flock! White Leghorns having composed 80 per cent of this contest's entries.

This is our experience, other breeders no doubt have done as well or better. However when linking any of the Plymouth Rocks with production we must not forget the purpose for which this breed was intended, remembering they are, and shall stay, in the general purpose class.

I recall an incident, where a man changed from Leghorns to Brahmas, and after a year's trial condemned them as poor layers. This, of course, is unreasonable. If one wants a draft horse, certainly the race track is not the place to find one, nor would you want a draft horse for the race track. Yet this very same thing often happens in the poultry world. Many a good hen is not even given her just dues.

MEAT QUALITIES.

The second essential requirement is good quality meat, a frame that

carry plenty of it, and a carcass that will be attractive when displayed market. All this we have in the Plymouth Rock; this breed did not come about just by accident, it was expressly created to meet the particular demands of the American people, for a chicken not too large nor too small, a compromise between the small Mediterranean and the big Asiatic. Yellow skin, and shanks, fine grained flesh along with good flavor.

Here again we find them in the middle class. When comparing several breeds, with the aid of photographs (see Marketing Poultry Products, page 87; by Earl W. Benjamin, taken of cross-section of leg muscles) we find the Leghorn shows relatively small muscle fibers and large amounts of connective tissue between the bundles of fibers. Plymouth Rocks have coarser muscle fibers and less connective tissue, giving a more tender flesh. The Orpington breed has still less connective tissue and larger muscle fibers, thereby giving a flesh even more tender than the Plymouth Rocks. Comparatively speaking the difference between the meat of Plymouth Rocks and the so-called meat breeds would hardly be detected when served, unless one were a critic along this line. Of course, we can breed them to equal the Orpington or like breeds, having less connective tissue but we would gain nothing in the end. The little gained here would be a loss in other respects. We want just what we have now, a general purpose breed.

The Partridge is at par with all other varieties of the Plymouth Rock family regarding meat, thereby possessing this second necessary characteristic.

CONSTITUTION

The Partridge Plymouth Rocks are a hardy race, and will give a good account of themselves in any climate and environment. With proper care they will grow bone and muscle in a remarkably short time.

Compared with many other varieties of the American class the Partridge Rocks feather out at an early age, consequently, are very desirable as broilers. Of course, strain and breeding influence this characteristic, but my statement will hold good for the Partridge Rocks in general.

WEAR-WELL COLOR.

By this we mean a ground color and markings that will not fade when exposed to the elements, always looking presentable, and uniform as a flock. Even specimens not conforming to the Standard description regarding markings should still appeal to the average poultry keeper, though the victim of careless breeding should still be recognized as members of the variety to which they belong.

With a few exceptions did any fowl not possessing a fast color ever attain the height of popularity for any length of time, no matter how good in other respects? The Barred Plymouth Rock although parti-colored has a plumage color that wears. It has been North America's most popular favorite for a long time. On the other hand, we have the Rhode Island

Reds, an exception. Its color does not wear, yet has become popular and is holding on, due to the wonderful backing it has, through its specialty club constantly advertising its good qualities, and breeders always working hard to improve them.

Many think the Partridge a complicated pattern, hard to breed. This is not true. Comparatively, they are no harder to breed than any other parti-colored variety. Even breeders of black and white plumage have trouble enough to attain the desired color points.

The Plymouth Rocks with partridge dress always appear presentable; they never become blotchy or spotted, as do some of the solid colored kind. Even very defective pencilling would not make them unsightly, in fact, a coat of plain brown can still be classed beautiful.

We have one of the best arguments favoring Partridge plumage pattern. Once a Partridge Plymouth Rock, always a Partridge Plymouth Rock is a truth. The crescentic pencillings of the female, the richness and ground color of both sexes improve with each molt. Think of it, beauty increasing with age. O sisters! what a price wouldn't you pay the Partridge for their secret.

Now let us take our Partridges to market and see how they fare. The market is the final court which decides the class and usefulness of our poultry. Market rules and requirements are peculiar and often seem unfair. Being as we can not change them, we must meet the demands. Late years there is a prepubdence against fowls with black plumage. We have handled thousands of market poultry, and have seen the finest black Langshan fryers and roosters in prime condition discounted on account of their black feathering; actually Leghorn price was paid for them. Wouldn't this break any fancier's heart? And again when filling retail orders, we have had difficulty in convincing the patron that a White Wyandotte or White Plymouth Rock would fill their bill. An impression existed that all white chickens were White Leghorns. It's ignorance, of course, the public certainly needs education along these lines. The sooner we accomplish this, the better for all of us breeder fanciers of Standardbred poultry.

The breeder of Partridge encounters no such difficulties. Their plumage, although dark, is not black, while it resembles the brown Leghorn somewhat, but that variety is not raised in large enough numbers to cause confusion. They ride the market at high levels as colored broilers, fryers, commanding the best prices as roosters and capons.

In conclusion, we find our beautiful and useful Partridge Plymouth Rocks complying with all requirements that go with popularity. In the hands of capable breeders, they can soon come to the front as North America's most desired fowl by the fancier, farmer and market. Let us have a powerful specialty club to back them and broadcast their merits. Don't let the Partridge Plymouth Rock do all their own boosting—LET US BOOST THEM.

PARTRIDGE ROCK MATING HINTS

By LAURENCE C. ALLEN, Sanford, Maine.

The subject of Mating or Breeding is one of the most important problems in the raising of poultry. This Mating problem, whether viewed from the fancier's or from the commercial poultryman's standpoint, resolves itself on the same basic foundation of type, size, and vigor. It is truly said that "Shape makes the breed and color the variety." The commercial breeder may aim more to perfect the type, regardless of color; while the fancier is apt to seek the correct color and markings, even at the expense of poor type. As a matter of fact, however, experienced breeders, both fancy and commercial, realize that matings which produce offspring possessing both type that is true to the breed and color which properly conforms to the variety, are the ones that give the best all-round results. And nobody will dispute the fact that vigor is a decidedly essential element in any specimen or flock. The Plymouth Rock Standard, like those of other breeds, calls for a fixed size, type, weight, etc. And each variety has a certain Standard color and design which differentiates it from others. As a general principle, radical extremes in the mating of poultry should be avoided.

In the Plymouth Rocks we have a breed the type of which is one of moderation. Specimens of this breed of poultry should have moderately long, broad backs, rising with a slight concave sweep of thirty degrees to the tail feathers. The tail feathers should be rather short and fairly well spread. They should have deep, full, well-rounded breasts, and an abundance of body room. Their frames should be moderately large (that is, a happy medium in size between the large Asiatic breeds and the small Mediterraneans), and heavily boned. In weight the Cock should have 9½ pounds; cockerel 8 pounds; hen 7½ pounds; and pullet 6 pounds. The Partridge Plymouth Rocks, like all the other single-comb varieties of Plymouth Rocks, have rather low, upright, five-pointed combs.

Now, in particular, to discuss the Mating of Partridge Plymouth Rocks. It is well for us to bear in mind that Partridge Rocks were first originated in 1898 and 1899 and that the Partridge Cochin served as the primary and basic derivative to which was added and intermingled about one-sixteenth of the blood of each of the following breeds: Dark Cornish or Indian Game; Golden Pencilled Hamburg; Golden Laced Wyandotte; Partridge Wyandotte "sports"; and Brown Leghorn. The Partridge variety is commonly recognized as one of the most beautiful, both in colors and patterns, of all the varieties of poultry.

The production of high-grade Partridge Rocks is well worth all the effort and care that we may expend in making choice matings. The Partridge Rocks are endowed with rich colors and elaborate designs of feathering, yet gratifying results are continually obtained in mating them, and it is especially pleasing to know that both high-class males and females are

obtainable under the Single-Mating system from one and the same breeding pen.

No arbitrary rules can be set up as a sure path to success in the mating of poultry. Skill in producing fine specimens is acquired by experience, observation, and study. Although one of the latest creations in poultrydom, being first admitted to the American Standard of Perfection in 1909-1910, Partridge Rocks have now reached a stage of perfection where they are remarkably free from innate defects or weakness. All breeds and varieties, however, have points to be avoided and it may be prudent at this time to take note of the six following defects which sometimes appear in Partridge Rocks and which, consequently, we should bear in mind when forming our matings:

1. Positive white in any feathers.
2. Shafting in feathers (light-colored quills).
3. Dusky-yellow legs and beaks.
4. Feathered legs and toes.
5. Indistinct markings.
6. Poor color.

In all cases, we must not overlook size, type, and vigor, of course.

1. The American Standard of Perfection issued by the American Poultry Association states that "positive white in the main tail feathers, sickles or secondaries shall disqualify a specimen," and "gray or white in any except disqualifying sections of the plumage of all Partridge varieties shall warrant cuts from one-half a point to six points, depending upon the section of the specimen where it is found." Certainly there is no place for "white" in the plumage of a high-class Partridge Rock, at least not to any noticeable extent. Light gray or cotton is still apt to appear in the undercolor, particularly at the base of the hackle or neck feathers and at the base of the sickle or tail feathers in the Partridge Rock male, so it seems prudent for the Standard to rule more leniently in those sections, merely imposing cuts for those lesser appearances of white rather than disqualify what otherwise may be really fine specimens. White rarely appears in the Partridge female feathers, and this weakness seems to be growing less conspicuous in the males. Light gray undercolor is not a serious defect. It is the pure white in any noticeable degree that we must avoid. Pure white in the ear-lobes is, of course, a disqualifying defect.

2. "Shafting" is still a bothersome element in breeding Partridge Rocks. In order to treat this topic adequately, we must discuss the male and female separately and we must distinguish between the parts of the feather (that is, the outer part or web and the inner down or fluff of the feather). The Standard prefers black shafts (the stems or quills of the feathers) in the dominant Partridge Rock male feathers, but wisely permits a slight shafting of rich red. The Standard does not mention what color the shafts of the Partridge female shall be, though they are ordinarily of a slate (i. e. dark bluish-gray) hue. By "shafting" as a real weakness, I refer to ex-

treely light-colored quills which extend through the outer part or web of the feathers near the tips, thus causing a distinct rupture in the color and markings of the feathers. This lightness in color of the shaft appears most frequently in the upper breast feathers of the Partridge female, despite the fact that her breast feathers are invariably the best in color and pencilling. The female hackle feathers are also susceptible to this shafting difficulty. The quill (shaft) in the inner portion or down of the Partridge female feathers usually is a slate color which blends well with her slate undercolor. In the outer part or web of her feathers, however, the quill assumes more of a reddish-brown (i. e. reddish-bay) color, and when the quill does not become of lighter hue than a medium reddish-brown it harmonizes beautifully with her surface color. The shafting evil is not so objectionable in the Partridge Rock male, but undesirable when lighter than medium. In the Partridge male, a rich, red quill invariably extends through the whole length of his neck and back feathers and a goodly portion of his saddle feathers, so it is well that the Standard now permits at least slight shafting in these male feathers. Sometimes the shaft borders on a reddish-brown, but a rich red usually predominates. The rich red quills form outstanding threads through the center of the male's greenish-black stripes and match the rich, brilliant red edging or fringe of his dominant hackle; back and saddle feathers. The quills of the inner portion or down of the feathers in the less prominent parts of the Partridge male, as occurs in the female, are generally more of a slate hue, thereby conforming to the slate undercolor. It is fortunate that this light-colored shafting is not a common occurrence in Partridge Rocks, for this defect is very noticable when it exists, particularly in the female.

3. Another weakness which has beset the Partridge Rock in past years is the lack of rich yellow legs and beaks. The Standard, even in the modern 1930 edition, still calls for dark horn in the Partridge beaks. The best specimens have rich yellow beaks, legs, shanks, and toes, and while the ancestral bloods carried a considerable amount of dark horn in their beaks, great strides of improvement have been made. It is hoped that the next Standard will call for yellow beaks in plain language, and even use the expression rich yellow. In passing, we may point out that the Partridge skin is yellow and the eggs are brown-shelled, although there is room for more uniformity in the shade of the egg shells. And it is in keeping with Plymouth Rock tradition to expect distinctly yellow beaks and legs.

4. Inasmuch as Partridge Rocks are derived in a predominant measure from the Partridge Cochin, it is not surprising that a few stubs or feathers sometimes appear on their legs and toes. This is treated as a disqualifying defect by the Standard of Perfection, although this seems pretty severe when we occasionally find just a little down or a single stub or two on what may be a remarkably fine specimen. Happily, this weakness is rapidly disappearing.

5. and 6. As in all other varieties and breeds of poultry, difficulty is experienced in producing birds with clear-cut, uniform markings, and with rich, even color. The artistic crescentic pencillings of the Partridge female are most likely to be indistinct in the hackle, thighs, and fluff feathers. The female breast feathers are more readily produced to a high state of perfection, and their exquisite design and beauty of colors serve as a powerful incentive to secure real quality. Coarse, irregular, incomplete, vague, and mealy or mossy markings should be avoided in the female feathers. Not only should the female pencillings be clear-cut, narrow, and regularly defined, but they also should be even in width (i. e. the black crescentic lines should form alternating pencillings with the reddish-brown (that is, the reddish-bay or mahogany-brown) lines of equal width—equally spaced, rather than allow the black ones to be coarser or wider than the brown, or vice-versa. The female markings come in bars at first, but her chick feathers gradually give place to crescentic pencillings, conforming to the shape of the feathers. The pencillings become much clearer and richer after each molt, especially in the second and third years. A proper contrast in the black and reddish-brown pencillings will help maintain the desired medium shade of color, extremes thus being avoided. The female neck feathers are often too light, too dark, of foreign color, vaguely pencilled, or contain too much black. Future Standards could well call for distinct pencilling in the neck feathers, rather than only slight pencilling.

In the Partridge male, difficulty centers in the production of solid, clear-cut stripes in the hackle, back, and saddle feathers. They should be greenish-black with a lustrous sheen, well-pointed, and with a uniform, narrow border of rich brilliant red. The center stripes should come to a complete halt rather than run into the red border or fringe. Narrow striping is preferred and a rich lustre gives the desired finish to the male. Too light undercolor is a common failing in the Partridge Rock male. Tinges of reddish-brown sometimes spoil his breast and fluff effect, only a slight tinging being permitted under the Standard. The Standard might well call for a greenish-sheen on his deep black breast, body, and thighs, and thus allow nature to function more fully. As in the Partridge female, we should strive for a medium shade of color in the male. Flock improvement as a whole is most needed along color and marking lines. Indeed, these are common failings in all breeds and varieties.

Many breeders prefer to line-breed their stock, creating a distinct strain that carries certain proportions of basic blood lines, then keeping within the same blood lines for years. Systematic line-breeding does not necessarily mean in-breeding after the first year or two, so long as the matings are carefully planned out and new blood occasionally added. By intelligently and systematically line-breeding stock, the blood-line of the parent stock is retained, yet the relationship is kept on a suitably distant basis. It is a significant and valuable asset where both exhibition males and females can be produced from the same pen under the Single-Mating System, rather

than have to employ the double-mating process. In preparing our matings, we are deeply concerned with heredity. The more we know of the life history of our birds, the more easily shall we recognize their weaknesses and be able to combat such tendencies.

Partridge Plymouth Rocks are pleasing to look at whether they are lighter or darker than Standard color. But the genuine poultryman realizes that it is best for him to improve his flock as a whole—for eggs, meat, and beauty. The strictly commercial poultryman, who aims solely at eggs and meat regardless of exhibition points, will, presumably, mate only those birds that are well-balanced physically and vigorous; that have well-developed combs, broad backs, great breadth, depth, and flexibility in the region around the plevic bones; that are of good size and weight; and birds of high egg records. The strictly commercial breeder, too, often uses males each season of a new blood line or strain.

Occasionally defects such as: split comb, side sprigs, twisted comb, squirrel tail, wry tail, split wing, etc., will appear in any breed, and specimens having any such disqualifying marks are unfit for breeding purposes.

Blood-lines which are systematically and carefully built up will be apt to yield results commensurate with the thought and effort which we have expended in their establishment. Haphazard or chance methods will bring mostly disappointment in comparison with matings that are backed by experience and forethought. Partridge Rocks will afford us first rate results from an all-around standpoint when we properly manage them, and we will then derive untold pleasure and benefit from them.

MATING PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

By S. A. NOFTZGER, Wabash, Indiana.

Perhaps, judging by the correspondence here, mating is the most vital proposition with the Partridge Rock breeder of today. The impression prevails that there is something uncanny, or occult, about the breeding of our favorite while the very opposite is true, as there is nothing in mating peculiar to Partridge Plymouth Rocks.

The main mating handicap, from my viewpoint, is the difference of opinion that has existed as to the correct shade of Partridge color, both in male and female. Some breeders have preferred stock too dark, while others have fancied those that were entirely too light in color.

Sometimes a fancier becomes convinced that his stock is too dark then it must be mated to fowls of the opposite sex that are light in color, and vice versa. This, of course, will not be as satisfactory as the mating of the proper shade of color in both sexes for the progeny will vary in color more, with a per cent too light and a per cent too dark, but the owner can then select the desired shade and continue his matings in correct colors. A good rule to follow, and this should be stamped indelibly in the minds of fanciers

generally, as it applies to all varieties of fowls, is never to mate a male and female with the same fault, or avoid mating them from ancestry that has the same faulty tendency. On the other hand, the best results come from the mating of high class fowls with no striking faults and with the little faults they possess differing.

The knowledge of the ancestry of our fowls is very much of an aid to successfully mate fowls. To know the tendency of a strain, so that we



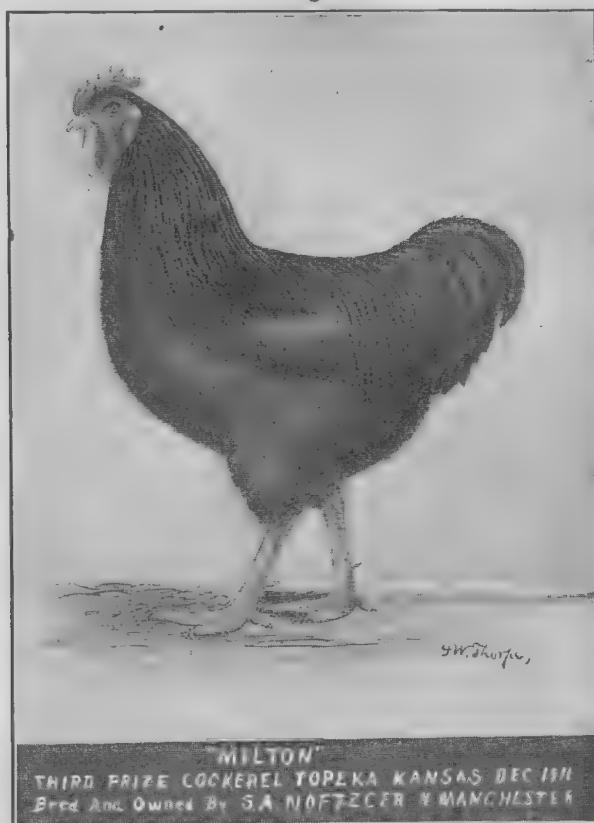
can avoid letting certain defects get away with us, is an advantage also.

Then, too, a good judge of fowls can more readily select breeders and see how they should be mated. Sometimes our selections seem to come by intuition and we cannot tell why certain matings were made. But, remember, that always two things are present when matings are made that result in exceptional matings—blood lines to back up the fowls and high class individual fowls to further insure success.

TRAPNESTING PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

By THOS. G. KINVIG, Medicine Hat, Alta., Canada.

Little attention has been paid to the Partridge Plymouth Rock as a producer, the interest of the breeders having been concentrated mainly up-



on the exhibition quality of this beautiful variety of Plymouth Rock. But in this age, which is distinguished mainly by achievements in the direction of commercial utility, the subject of breeding exhibition Partridge Rocks for higher egg production does not appear to be of secondary importance.

The Partridge Rock is a beautiful fowl and we are indebted much to those who have devoted all their energies to the perfecting of type, color, feather, and markings even to the neglect of productive character. We

must also remember that it is the exhibition breeders who have given to the modern utilitarians the material from which the world's best commercial fowl has been developed.

The many years of trapnesting Partridge Rocks has convinced me that there is nothing inconsistent about beauty and productive merit except the element of time and expense involved in selecting birds combining both values in the same individuals. Where beauty and utility ideals clash then one must yield temporarily to the other, which one to be determined by the object in view of the breeder.

Ten years ago I purchased my first trio of Partridge Rocks—two pullets and a cockerel—from an exhibition breeder who had some wonderful birds. The first spring I penned these three for breeding. I didn't have them mated long before one of them went broody. So, anxious to get some early chicks from my new birds, I let her set on a setting of eggs, leaving just one female in the pen and this one was the means of giving me the idea of trapnesting because I received thirty-nine eggs from this bird in forty days, having laid an egg every day, except one, in forty consecutive days. But it was Nov. 1, 1922, before I installed trapnests and started to keep records.

I also entered a pen of ten pullets in the Lethbridge egg-laying contest to start Nov. 1. This pen was picked from twenty-two pullets, all Standard type and color. I didn't have many to pick my contest pen from but I was convinced that they would make a creditable showing. I also knew that they would be the best, if not the only exhibition pen in the contest. I was told that they wouldn't lay many eggs as they were exhibition-bred but I took a chance and the results were most gratifying as they made a splendid winter record and ended the year with the highest hen laying 220 eggs, another 191 and the third 187. Their sisters at home, twelve in number, laid just as well, two laying over 200 eggs. In fact, the highest laid 237 and another 203 in fifty-two weeks.

The next contest year, which ended Oct. 29, 1924, was still better. The highest bird went 223 eggs. In 1925 I introduced new blood from two well-known breeders. Trying this new blood at home the first year, I found that I had improved the size of egg and also the color of shell.

The 1926-1927 pen entered in the above contest had some of this new blood in it and these birds made a still better record, three birds laying over 200 eggs, 223, 211 and 208, respectively. The exhibition qualities of these birds have also been improved as well as the egg yield. For instance, last winter at the four largest Altoloosa shows these birds won five silver trophies and two medals, including such wins as best pen in show all varieties competing, best display of Plymouth Rocks, best bird in show, best parti-colored bird in show, etc.

The first prize hen at Calgary Winter show last year was a contest bird with an official record of 174 eggs. This hen is also dam of contest hen No. 189 with a record of 208 eggs.

This splendid record of Partridge Rocks has put all doubt aside that they cannot be bred on a commercial scale, and the trapnest has revealed beyond all doubt that they are supreme as winter layers when eggs are at their highest price. For the benefit of readers who might doubt this, I quote the following official record of my pen at the Lethbridge egg-laying contest, 1926-1927, for the winter period from Nov. 1 until Feb. 27. These records were made at the above contest without either artificial heat or light, and the temperature you all know goes very low at times.

For the above winter period this pen of Partridge Rocks held fifth place competing against twenty-nine pens. For individual birds Partridge Plymouth Rocks held the fifth and sixth places, 290 birds competing. The records of these two hens for this period are 95.1 and 93.4 points, respectively.

Partridge Rocks are exceedingly hardy which makes them will adapted to our climate. The hens are wonderfully good sitters and make very careful mothers, but if sitters are not needed, one can easily break up their broodiness and they will begin to lay again in a week or two.

Every breeder of Partridge Rocks should adopt as his motto, "To make the useful more beautiful, and the beautiful, more useful." To properly combine into one harmonious whole the most useful with the most beautiful, without sacrificing the ideals of either calls for the soundest science and the finest art of breeding.

MEAT QUALITIES OF PARTRIDGE ROCKS

By ROY ARMITAGE, Freeport, Illinois.

In our efforts to place stress upon the laying and fancy points of various breeds of poultry, I fear that the meat qualities are often overlooked. Especially is this true about winners and layers, but less often do we hear of their table usefulness. And to my mind meat is one of the strongest values of the Partridge Rocks.

I'll admit their extreme beauty is so attractive that it often carries us away to the very limit of fancydom, but beneath their glorious cloaks are kings' meals. In fact, breeding for fancy does not injure the meat value of a fowl as is often the case with their egg production. But the nearer the Standard a fowl attains, the more uniform will be its carcass. Thus a flock of standard bred birds will appear more even, when dressed, and command a better price than mongrel or low-grade fowl of all shapes, colors and sizes minus uniformity. Furthermore, a standard bred chicken must be healthy, which means their meat will be of the purest kind.

The yellow skin of the Partridge Rock will attract your appetite. While the color of the skin does not affect the flavor of the meat, yet the American markets prefer a yellow skinned fowl to the white skinned ones of English

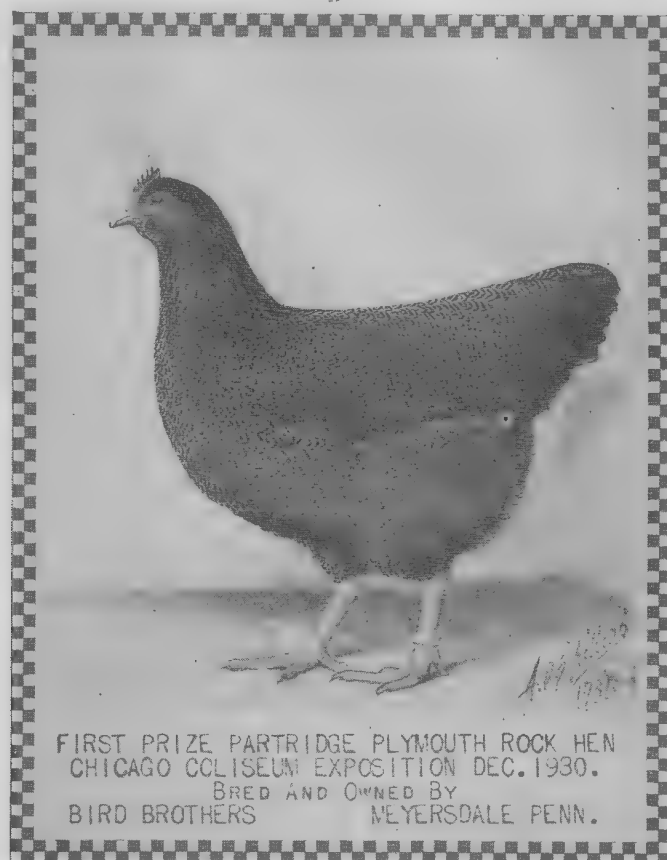
markets. And there is something rich looking about yellow skin that appeals to us, just as rich, golden butter is more attractive than butter without color.

A great many people might think that the dark plumage of Partridge Rocks means dark pin feathers. This is not true as one might surmise.



because the undercolor of the feathers next to the skin are slate color and not black. However, I have always felt that dark feathered poultry have an advantage because the pin feathers are so prominent that it makes the producer remove every last one of them, giving us a cleaner fowl in the long run, than the one with light colored pin feathers which are not always all removed because they are not easily seen, but which the consumer must remove eventually.

The finest thing about Partridge Rock meat is its flavor. This is due to the introduction of Indian Game in the origination of Partridge Rocks. The game is noted for its fine flavor and this has been transmitted to the Partridge Rocks. Their flesh is juicy and tender and not so dry and stringy as is found in some fowls. We have experimented and we know of folks



who have cooked other varieties along with Partridge Rocks, and in every instance the Partridge Rock could be distinguished at the table by its better flavor. If you don't believe this, try it yourself.

Partridge Rocks are not all "legs" until they reach maturity, as is the case with some of the larger breeds, but they have very plump breasts at any period of age. They easily make a pound a month until maturity, and grow rapidly, so that they are unsurpassed as broilers at 10 or 12 weeks

old, or as larger roasters. And a Partridge Rock capon is a delicacy that will make your mouth water. In fact, PARTRIDGE ROCKS ARE THE IDEAL MARKET FOWL.

Most of us who breed Partridge Rocks know of their splendid table value, but if you have never tried selling their meat, or if there is a beginner looking for an ideal market chicken, try marketing some choice, juicy, tender Partridge Rock broilers, roasters, or capons to hotels.

"What have you for dinner?"

"Everything," said the waiter.

"Bring it in."

"One order of hash!" yelled the waiter.

—The Poultry Item.

Magistrate (to prisoner)—"How big was the brick you threw? Was it as big as my head?"

Prisoner—"Yes, your honor, but not so thick."—Vancouver Elk.

Partridge Plymouth Rocks

REAL BEAUTIES

10 and 12 Pound Stock.
Stock and Eggs for sale.
Fancy and Utility.

WINNINGS:

New Jersey State Poultry Show
Asbury Park, N. J.,
Oct. 15-18, 1929

1-2 Cockerel 1-2 Pullet
Color Special on 1st Pullet.

New Jersey State Poultry Show
Asbury, Park, N. J., Oct. 1930.

1-2 Cockerel 1-2 Pullet
2-3 Hen

Wilbur Dickemann

Box 93,
EATONTOWN, N. J.

Am Trying To Raise A Few Good Partridge Rocks



H. H. Burley

KEENE, N. H.

PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

By REV. F. H. EVA HOLCOMBE, near Bath, England.



We have in the Partridge Rock a bird that cannot be faked, requires neither shading nor washing, and in preparing for the show pen there are no feathers that need artificial moulting. This is then an ideal bird for the busy man and the backyarder. It is good to have a bird that will keep its color in all circumstances from the beginning of the year to its close. So many show birds lose color, with the result that their show days are limited. Top color in the Partridge is the great thing, and we are not called upon to worry about defective undercolor as in some breeds.

We have a further advantage in that if a pullet is but medium quality in pencilling she invariably improves in pencilling as a hen. Progressive value of this kind is certainly an asset and cannot very often be claimed for many other varieties.

A good many shipments of trios have already come over from America and a fair quantity of hatching eggs are on the way. Fanciers are now in a position to sell pullets, hens and cockerels at prices to suit all sorts of customers.

Recent judging of Partridge Rocks has been very interesting, and in nearly every case the judge has felt more confidence in judging the females than the males. The deciding factor with the females has been pencilling.

Good clear pronounced pencilling has generally influenced the judge when in doubt as to whether the award should be given to male or female.

JUDGING THE MALES.

Judges seem to have hesitated as to whether they correctly know just what is the right shade of color in the male. Some males have been shown



with color closely resembling the color of the exhibition R. I. Reds; this is, of course, too dark for the show bird, that is why the term "brilliant red" is used in the standard. The red must be as brilliant as you can get it, without giving you the impression that it is getting too near to orange-red. This brilliant red will show up distinctly the black center stripe in saddle feathers, but if the red is dark it fuses with the center stripe and the whole appearance is dull. The male bird has beautiful yellow legs, but the standard allows the females to have "yellow or dusky yellow legs," and the first females over from America had dusky yellow legs. The later arrivals have good yellow legs and I have noticed that the late hatched pullets of last

come with yellow legs. Recently imported cockerels are longer in κ and leg and conform to our English type of Rock, without being extreme length of leg or back.

All reports that come in agree as to the sturdy strength of chicks and the amazing rapidity of growth. When we are considering birds for the table, egg production and show pen condition, it is comforting to know that we have taken up a breed that is getting along with the business at full speed.

The Plymouth Rock Society, at its annual meeting at the Crystal Palace, unanimously adopted the color standard of the American Partridge Rock, and this standard is now included in the Year Book.

Show Secretaries may now put on classes for Partridge Rocks with confidence. The fresh breeders are so keen that they will see to it that these classes are filled. Now that Mr. John Wharton has taken them up thoroughly I have no fear about them going well in the north, and the men of south and west are well away and will secure complete success this end. We hope soon to get them equally well established in the midlands.

SHOW YOUR NICE PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

NOTHING CREATES INTEREST IN A VARIETY OF POULTRY
EQUAL TO LARGE CLASSES AT FALL FAIRS
AND WINTER SHOWS

By R. LeROY ARMITAGE, Freeport, Illinois.

Then the little Hiawatha
Learned of every bird its language,
Learned their names and all their secrets,
How they built their nests in Summer,
Where they hid themselves in Winter,
Talked with them whene'er he met them.
Called them "Hiawatha's Chickens".

—Longfellow.

Before long the leaves will be colored with the beautiful tints of Autumn, and there is nothing more pleasant to me than to take to the woods at Autumn time and sit beneath all this tinted foliage and read the beautiful poem from which the above lines are quoted. For then I can realize all the joy and beauty that was the youthful Hiawatha's as he heard the

murmuring brooks, the song of the birds, the chirp of the squirrel, the rustle of the leaves or sat beneath a stately tree and scented wild flowers or watched a glorious sunset.

And how his heart would have been thrilled further, could he have seen a pair of beautiful Partridge Plymouth Rocks step forth from some grove of shrubbery and display their gorgeous colored plumage and graceful forms in the sunlight! And I can see this legendary hero first stop to admire them, call to them and perhaps stroke their velvety cloaks as they eat wild berries from his hand. And after a few kindly words from him, they disappear into the forest as the Indian youth makes his way back to his wigwam with greater visions for the betterment of his tribesmen, because of the inspiration wrought from the day's experiences.

We fanciers of today can enjoy, in a greater measure, the thrills that were Hiawatha's, for in our Partridge Rocks we have all the beauty of a sunset, or an Autumn, or a flower, in fact the very plumage of the quail, partridge or pheasant which Hiawatha enjoyed, is similar in its makeup to the Partridge color. And the Gallus Bankivus from which all domestic poultry is supposed to have descended, is very much like the Partridge in color, so that we may say that our's is Nature's color.

But as we have all these beauties of Hiawatha's brought as near to us as our poultry yard, I am wondering if we really KNOW our chickens, as did he—their language, their secrets, their nests and hiding places? Perhaps not in the same sense, but do we know who originated Partridge Rocks and when and why?

It always seemed to me that the best piano player would be the one who could completely dissemble his instrument and then completely assemble it again and know how it was made and just what action is taking place within as he presses certain keys.

And the same is true with chickens, we know that perhaps half a dozen different fanciers originated Partridge Rocks. After you know the various methods used, adopt one of these strains as your choice, and then, if possible, know the exact percentage of blood of each of the different breeds crossed in making your strain of Partridge Rocks.

For instance, know that if your strain is a cross between Partridge Cochins, Golden Wyandottes, Brown Leghorns and Cornish Game, that while the result may be a fowl with the lay of the Leghorn, the meat qualities of the Game, the beauty of the Cochins and the type of the Plymouth Rock, there is also an occasional revision to the white ear lobes of the Leghorn, the lengthy legs of the Game or the feathered shanks or cushion-like back of the Cochins. Some strains which are an outgrowth of Partridge Wyandottes "Sports" (single comb Wyandottes) will often throw specimens small in size and Wyandotte-like in type. By knowing these weaknesses we can be on guard against them and by continual breeding from specimens as free from defects as possible, we can in time stamp out many of their faults. However, it is these little troubles popping up now and then that make

the chicken game interesting, for there would be no real sport in breeding birds if every specimen bred true. But Partridge Rocks are not nearly as difficult to reproduce as some might surmise from their fine feathers, because their color comes from Nature and is not a creation of man.

By knowing the history of Partridge Rocks, we are able to answer on the spur of the moment, any questions from the prospective novice as to their origin and qualities to expect.

Not only should we know the origin and history of the strain of Partridge Rocks which we adopt, but we should find out if they came from a breeder who has double mated, that is, use one mating to produce exhibition males and another mating to produce exhibition females; or from a breeder who has single mated or produced both exhibition males and females from the same mating. Both methods are in use and both are successful but we prefer single mating because it requires less birds where as in double mating one may as well keep two matings and this no doubt would discourage many beginners from taking up a variety that requires two matings. So be sure and know which method the breeder from whom you get your start has used, then stick to that method from another strain unless it comes from a breeder who has been using the same method, or you will be disappointed in the results.

If a breeder refuses to give you information concerning his manner of mating, then I would not buy of him—in fact there may be some reading this article to whom I have written asking information as to the make-up of their strain, and to such I would say, that if you did not make a sale, it was no doubt because you kept back any data that would help me to know my Partridge Rocks.

A thorough knowledge of the origin and history of Partridge Rocks having been acquired and a favorite method of mating, in order to retain their good points as well as improve them. In a foot race, the start has much to do with the finish and a good start in poultry is the same. But we must strive to better each year, the success we already have attained.

In accomplishing this, we should study Mendel's Law of Breeding. Know the principle of "independent unit character;" "determiner" and "Segregation;" know the dominant and recessive characters. One could spend a lifetime in this interesting study and by no means know it all. But it is a great help in breeding.

A great many methods of mating have been described, but a safe and simple rule to follow is to mate male and females that are as near the Standard requirements as possible, trying to have the male strong in points where the females may be weak, and vice versa. And to maintain the good points of your strain, to know line breeding and follow it, is essential.

The greatest thing in the world that will help you to know your Partridge Rocks thoroughly is to pedigree. And this can be accomplished only by the trap nest, or, if you haven't time to trapnest, it will pay you to mate in pairs. But by all means pedigree if you really desire to know your chick-

ens. This article applies to Partridge Rocks purely from a fancier's point of view and it is necessary for the fancier to pedigree only through the hatching season although I have heard of experiment stations who say that the egg record of a hen during hatching season will be a pretty sure indication of her yearly performance as a layer.

You will find pedigree breeding is not only interesting, but it will have some big surprises in store for you. For instance, that little old hen that you did not like, may be producing your best chicks; or the best appearing hen will be disappointing you in her offspring; or hen number so and so is the one whose eggs are the ones that are never fertile, and so on. But whatever the results, you know them to be facts. And there is a great deal of pride in being able to point out a bird to a friend and give its full history on both sides of the family.

Of course all the parent stock in a mating must be banded or numbered for pedigree work. Then as I release my hens from the trapnest I write her band number on her eggs, together with the pen number and date. And be sure your trapnests are the kind in which not more than one hen can be trapped at a time, for if two hens lay in the same nest at once, you are not positive which hen laid the egg. And if you find an egg outside the nest occasionally, don't "guess" which hen laid it, but discard the egg entirely to be sure.

These pedigreed eggs are placed in a room of moderate temperature, each hen's eggs being placed in a separate compartment and turned daily. I usually try to collect 15 or a setting of eggs from a hen before incubating her eggs. Ten days is the age limit for saving hatching eggs, according to common theory, but with Nature, a farm hen often steals a nest, lays 15 or so eggs and comes proudly marching home with 15 chicks, and I have had very good luck with eggs 15 days old. In fact, if we have a valuable hen whose eggs are priceless we will set every egg possible from her. But set her eggs before they become too old even if you have but two or three to set.

I use hens mostly for incubating and brooding and I try to give all one hen's eggs to one setter. If I must place more than one hen's eggs under a cluck, I always separate them before they hatch. Of course, in incubators pedigree trays overcome much of this difficulty, but I am only a small breeder and old biddy serves me very nicely.

I have a basement under my home which I use to set my hens in, covering each hen and her nest box with a wire screen and removing same only at feeding time. But I hope some day to have individual setting hen coops.

As the chicks hatch I toe-mark each chick, using a different mark for each hen's progeny. Then in a few days I band each chick with a small aluminum numbered band. The modern method is to remove this band as the chicks become older and insert it in the wing where it remains permanently, but I usually change to larger bands on the legs as the chick becomes

more mature. I like the colored celluloid bands because with color and number both I can determine pen, year and individual. Of course all these numbers are recorded for permanent reference, and you will find that they will prove a valuable reference more than once.

Pedigree work requires much time, but it more than pays for itself, because the public seems to pay double price for birds that have been pedigreed. But the improvement you will make in your stock will alone pay for the effort, to say nothing of the joy derived from knowing your chickens.

Lest anyone accuse me of not "practicing what I preach," I will compare my own "Joseph's Coat" strain of Partridge Rocks with the manner of knowing chickens as I have related it thus far.

I procured my first Partridge Rock from a Mr. Lamkin, of Michigan, and his strain had won at Chicago, Buffalo, Detroit and St. Louis. They were very fine birds, and, although I purchased new blood from some of the best breeders, I kept no particular record of same, with the result that even though I had some very fine stock, I could not pick up one of my birds and diagnose their blood makeup—in other words, I did not know my chickens.

So I disposed of these birds, and after my return from the World War service I began anew.

And then came the problem of a good start. I wrote to several prominent breeders but finally adopted the strain of Mr. C. E. George & Son, of Union City, Mich., as my choice, because Mr. George had bred, judged and originated Partridge colored chickens for over forty years and I knew that some of the most successful breeders of Partridge color in all varieties had purchased stock from him. And best of all, in the March 1921 issue of the International Plymouth Rock Journal (my copy of which I would not sell for any amount) Mr. George published an article on "The Origin and Manner of Mating the Peerless Strain of Partridge Plymouth Rocks," in which the author made this statement: "It might be said at present that the Peerless strain of Partridge Plymouth Rocks contain the following ratio of blood perfectly merged: Cochin 1-2; Wyandotte 3-8; Cornish 1-16; Brown Leghorn 1-16." This strain was also single mated. He told all the facts concerning his birds so that we might know what we were getting, and I have never regretted my good start from such a fancier, especially since Mr. George disposed of his Partridge Rocks afterwards for other interests, so that I feel not only honored in being one to have some of his original blood, but I feel it my duty to perpetuate this famous strain. And the quality of the stock I received from him, judging from their wins (one hen hatched from his eggs having won at Chicago and New York for me) led me to believe that they are justified in being perpetuated.

But when you secure a good start, the problems of proper mating and introduction of new blood arises, in order that the good you already have will not deteriorate but improve, or at least hold its own.

I continued single mating with good results and although I have never as yet set the world on fire with my wins, I never fail to land a place and usually in hot competition.

And for new blood I sold the 5th Illinois State George cockerel to a customer in South Dakota who had the Agricultural college strain and later I procured eggs from him, and you might know the vigor of the cockerel when he was mated with 17 hens and every egg in the setting from Dakota hatched. And they niched well with the George strain, I retaining one pullet that won first in a class of eight at the Iowa State meet, for new blood, which seemed especially to improve the George birds in leg color. This now made my strain 50 per cent George and 50 per cent South Dakota Agricultural college. Later I added more blood from James W. and Henry J. Hunt's "Bea-Utility" strain because their strain contained a portion of George blood also, in fact, the cockerel I purchased from them (and he won first at Chicago National) contained Hunt 24 39-64 per cent; George 7 27-64 per cent; Jackson 17 1-32 per cent; Kellogg 50 per cent. This cockerel, when crossed with the pullet of George-S. Dak. blood, gave me the following proportions: Hunt 12 39-128 per cent; George 28 91-128 per cent; Jackson 8 63-64 per cent; S. Dak. Ag. college 25 per cent; Kellogg 25 per cent. And this is as the "Joseph's Coat" strain stands today, and this example is not given for advertising purposes but to show that I feel that I really KNOW my chickens. 'Tis true I have other Partridge Rocks whose blood lines I do not know so thoroughly, but I haven't the pride in them that I have in the birds of known breeding.

But I must admit that I give chief credit for knowing my chickens to James W. and Henry J. Hunt, our faithful Partridge Rock fanciers from Stoughton and Madison, Wis. It was their splendid win at the Chicago Coliseum club meet a few years ago that impressed me with their birds. And when I learned that they had some George blood I was more interested. But when I found that they could give you a history of their strain back to the Old Buffington line of 1903, I felt that I had found a breeder who knew his chickens. And I must say that I believe the Partridge Rock Club can boast of having the most careful breeder of any variety of fowl on the map! I refer again to James W. Hunt & Son, for when you buy a bird from them you receive with it a pedigree in the form of a blue print about two feet square, giving the blood proportions as I have given them above, only dating back about 15 years. In fact, it makes one realize how little he knows about his chickens when he comes in contact with a breeder who knows so much.

There are no doubt other Partridge Rock breeders who are just as careful. The above is only an example. But I believe that if we were to ask the successful fancier of any variety of poultry, they would tell you their success was due largely to pedigree breeding and KNOWING their chickens.

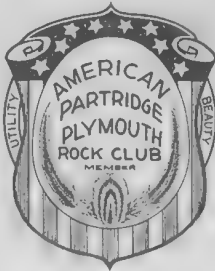
Personally, I am so strong for pedigreed stock that I would rather own six pedigreed Partridge Rocks than 106 not pedigreed. I would rather buy almost a cull from a known strain than a first prize winner from an unknown strain because I know just about what to expect from the known bird. If thieves were to break into my home tonight I would rather they steal my money (?) than my Partridge Rock pedigrees and records. If one of my pedigreed Partridge Rock birds die, I feel that loss almost as much as the loss of a friend.

I guess I am a 'pedigree crank' but I would not buy a car without lifting the hood and examining the motor first, nor would I invest in poultry without first knowing their breeding. All strains have their good points. It should be our aim to combine all these merits into one grand Partridge Plymouth Rock. And this can best be accomplished by pedigree breeding.

There are other ways we can know our chickens, such as knowing their wants in food and comfort, but "treat them as you would yourself" is a good motto. In other words, plenty of fresh air, sunshine, fresh water and clean food.

Hiawatha knew his chickens. Do we know our Partridge Plymouth Rocks? And if we do, are we letting the world know about them?

Club Crest



D. E. CROMPTON

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Member S. A. Plymouth Rock Club
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Partridge Plymouth Rocks

**SMITH'S HIGH GRADE
PARTRIDGE ROCKS WIN
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**Hatching Eggs; Baby Chix; and
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**I won 1st Cockerel and 3rd Pullet
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1930 on just two entries.**

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BLACK ROSE COMB BANTAMS**

Hatching Eggs—Breeding Stock.

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DAVENPORT, IOWA.
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**FIRST PEN COCKEREL. Amer-
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Iowa, October, 1930.**

**Exhibited by
H. M. BEAVER,
Davenport, Iowa.**

Fortify yourself with contentment, for this is an impregnable fortress.
—Epictetus.

“How much vas dose collars?”
“Two for a quarter.”
“How much for vun?”
“Fifteen cents.”
“Giff me de odder vun.”

—The Poultry Item.

PARTRIDGE ROCKS CROSS THE ATLANTIC

Here are a few quotations from "Random Shafts by Quill" in *The Feathered World* which is published in London, England:

From issue of March 29, 1929—Birdie has heard of no less than three cases within one week where Partridge Rocks have taken hold. They have even crossed the Border into Scotland and Holland.

In March 1, 1929 issue, John Wharton, a prominent English Judge and Breeder, who was one of the first to take up Partridge Rocks in England, asserted that he should staunchly uphold the Single Mating of Partridge Rocks; that he had sold eggs already in Scotland, and in the Counties of Somerset, Devon, Lancashire, and Yorkshire; and that they are taking on.

Rev. F. H. Eva of Somerset writes that he has given up all other varieties in order to handle Partridge Rocks exclusively. Mr. Eva apparently was the first one to import Partridge Rocks into England and to give them a real start there.

From May 3, 1929 issue: "I heard an indirect whisper last week to the effect that things were likely to 'hum' in the matter of these new Partridge Plymouth Rocks up in the Huddersfield district. It appears Mr. Harold Thornton, of Brown Leghorn fame, and Mr. Oswald Sykes, known in conjunction with Mr. Dyson in R. I. Reds, agreed to participate in a shipment of Partridge Rock eggs from Mr. ———, of U. S. A. The result, so I am told, is that these two fanciers have between them some 70 to 80 chickens that are progressing apace. When old fanciers like these, too confirmed to relinquish their old favorites, add this comparatively new Rock to their yards, it is safe to assume the Partridge Rock is in for a happy time, especially as I am told by an eye-witness how strong and hardy the chicks appear to be."

The two following quotations from "The Feathered World" published in London indicate active interest in Partridge Rocks in England. Excerpt from issue of January 18, 1929: "I crave a little space to make a few comments on the Partridge Rock. The combined warmth and richness of the brilliant red and glossy black of the Partridge males, with the beautiful pencilled markings of the female in charming contrast of rich mahogany-brown and black, is quite sufficient to arouse the interest of any person keen on poultry. Since the Rev. F. H. Eva introduced them into England they have made great strides, especially in the West, where well-known Red breeders and Canary fanciers have taken them up in earnest. Probably we shall get some criticism from prominent barred fanciers in introducing yet one more colored Rock. Well, I say hats off to the barred, they are fine, but the Partridge are finer. I think before 1929 is at an end we shall see some very good specimens at some of our leading shows. Apart from this, I hear they soon will be recognized in the laying tests. If so, they will be very creditable to the small fancier. A. Hayman."

In Hon. Secretary's Plymouth Rock Notes of January 25th issue: "Partridge Rocks are now so firmly established that show secretaries can safely put on classes for them; our leading fanciers will guarantee all classes put on."

The February 1929 issue of "The Poultry Item" published at Sellersville, Pennsylvania, U. S. A. carries the following Partridge color comments by Judge J. H. Drevenstedt of Northport, N. Y., who is Standard Editor of the "Item." "A reader of The Poultry Item asks us to discuss the correct shade of color of Partridge Wyandottes, as he finds 'There seems to be considerable disagreement among Judges and Exhibitors on this point, some Judges preferring the very dark and others a lighter shade of color.'"

"The American Standard of Perfection defines the surface color of neck, back, and wing-bows of the male as 'a medium shade of rich, brilliant red, extending around point of feather' in hackle and saddle; in the female the ground color should be a deep reddish-bay in the neck, back, wing-bows, breast and body, the feathers to have three or more distinct black pencillings. Very dark colored specimens will not meet the standard color requirements, but the lighter shade of color will approximate it closely, if not too light in neck, back and wing-bows of the male; and in the ground color of the female, as found in English-bred Partridge Wyandottes. The Poultry Club Standards of England, however, favor a much lighter colored bird, the hackle of the male being of a "bright orange yellow, shading to bright lemon yellow"; the color of the female a "light partridge brown, quite even and free from red or yellow tinge, each feather plentifully and distinctly pencilled with black, the pencilling to follow the form of the feather and be even and uniform throughout. Fine, sharply defined pencilling with three or more distinct lines of black is preferred to coarse, broad marking, especially in hens, in which the pencilling is generally better defined than in pullets."

"The color of the English Partridge Wyandotte female is rather attractive, neither too light or too dark, the pencilling being distinctly visible from without the cage the specimen is penned in. The English male, however, is altogether too light and uneven in color. When Judging Partridge Wyandottes, or any other Partridge-colored variety, it is well to bear in mind that birds with broad feathers will show up much brighter in color with the striping and pencilling more clearly defined, than those with narrow feathers, even if there appears little or no difference in the shades of color when examined in hand. J. H. Drevenstedt."

In his recent book on Plymouth Rocks, Judge John Taylor of England bears out Judge Drevenstedt's version of "orange and yellow hues" as being in vogue under the English interpretation of Partridge color in male and female. Now that the American Standard description of Partridge color is becoming known in England, it will be of real interest to see what reaction it has upon our English Brethren who are lovers of the Part-

ridge fancy. In the United States one and the same Partridge description is used for all Partridge Breeds. Presumably one uniform Partridge Standard description will eventually prevail for all Partridge breeds in England, also.

L. C. A.

"GETTING TOGETHER"

By PENCILINE

How many years have you bred Partridge Rocks?

Here are some interesting breeder records: S. A. Noftzger 31 years; J. W. and H. J. Hunt 30 years; Bird Bros. 21 years; Dr. W. J. Pirie 20 years; L. C. Allen 17 years; Mark T. Marshall 15 years; and the following come in the ten year category or better: R. LeRoy Armitage; Thos. G. Kinvig; Sam F. Raff; George H. Hendry; Albert Ecker; Fred Ritter; H. H. Burley; D. M. Barcus; E. A. Hamann; Hoelker Bros.; J. E. Jarvis; and C. E. George.

It seems that Hoelker Bros., are engaged in clerking duties when not occupied with their Partridge Rocks; that our President is familiarly known as "Jeff" while F. J. is plain "Mike" to his chums; that "Stoney" Stonebrook wields dentistry tools out in Iowa while "Doc" alias "Chap" Chapman does likewise here in the East; that "Tommy" Thompson is settling down to poultry and law since the World War ceased functioning; that H. J. "Hi" Hunt is a Civil Engineer; that "Bevo" Beaver can sell shoes in his sleep; that "Doc" Pirie has a body guard of some 1800 National Guardsmen while making the rounds as State Tuberculosis Inspector out in Iowa; that "Lawry" Allen is a Maine-i-ac lawyer; that D. E. Crompton is our first and only, to date, Partridge Rock breeder in South Africa and that he already has surmounted the Barred Rocks at times in the Show Room; that "Roy" Armitage is now with the W. T. Rawleigh Co. when not with his adult and Bantam Partridge Rocks; that Mack Marshall wins sweepstakes over everything in the Southland; that Mrs. Geo. Whigam is one of our most recent Partridge admirers; that Charles and Cyrus Bird of Bird Bros. fame are busy as the deuce with their Partridge Rock, Bronze Turkey, coal mine and other activities; that despite repeated family illnesses S. A. Noftzger, the originator, is just as enthusiastic as ever over Partridge Rocks; that Delbert Dunham is a young man who has his eyes on the laying contests as well as the fancy side of his Partridges; that when "Doc" Pirie recommends Mrs. Dawson and P. P. Black to membership, you can bet your best hat they will make live-wire members; that Albert Ecker is a funeral director, Town Clerk, and Partridge Rock booster; that those Keene, N. H., men are contemplating big doings in Partridge aisles in the near future; that "Bill" Logan is due to blossom out with a fine string of birds at Chicago and at Portland in December; that those other Massachusetts men will also be on hand; that Geo. H. Hendry and M. C. Willard are two veteran Eastern

breeders; that Bro. Stoddard is the dye house "King" of Georgia; that those "Palm Beach cloth and Plush Town" boys from Sanford, Maine generally raise a classy chicken or two; that "Louie" Reese is one of our newer hatchery men down in Florida; that Sam Raff has a way of trotting out a gem of a pullet each year; that Rev. Frederick Eva was the pioneer importer and is a prime booster of Partridge Rocks in England; that Wilbur Dickemann has some "good ones" over in New Jersey; that those New England men have staged some notable Meets; that "Doc" Yallaly knows his horses over in Missouri; that D. M. Barcus is momentarily out of the breeding game, but looks forward to resuming activities with the Partridges; that we hope "Bill" Crites from Missouri will trot out a bird or two that will "Show Us" what's what; that Bro. Cornelius and our other newer members can set a fine example by competing at the Club Meets; and that Mrs. Fern Smith is a most enthusiastic breeder and admirer of Partridge Rocks.

MARSHALL'S PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

are bred within twenty miles of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in East Tennessee. Fifteen years of breeding Plymouth Rocks exclusively has produced one of the best strains in the Southland.

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Good Breeders and Show Birds for sale at reasonable prices.

Write for prices on Stock and Eggs.

Atlanta Winter Poultry Show, Atlanta Georgia. In competition with six other Partridge Rock Breeders. Cock 1 Hens 1-3-6 Cockerels 7 Pullets 1-4 Old Pen 1 No Young Pen shown. Silver Cup for best Hen in the entire show.	East Tennessee Division Fair Knoxville, Tennessee Sept. 20-29, 1930. Cocks 1-2-3-4 5 Hens 1-2-3-4-5 Cockerels 1-2-3-4-5 Pullets 1-2-3-4-5 Old Pen 1-2-3-4-5 Young Pen 1-2-3-4-5 Best Pen in the American Class.
--	---

MACK T. MARSHALL
SEVIERVILLE, TENNESSEE.



Left to right: Cyrus M. Bird and Charles E. Bird, Meyersdale, Pa.



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BREEDER OF
PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS
STOCK FOR SALE EGGS IN SEASON
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**YOU ARE INVITED AND URGED
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The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club

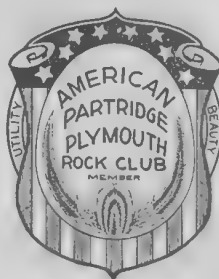
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BEST FOR EGGS :- BEST FOR MEAT

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If you are interested in Partridge Plymouth Rocks and interested in the best strain of this variety, don't fail to get our Special Partridge Plymouth Rock Catalog, which gives all our great winning records in detail made in America's best shows, and fully explains why our strain stands supreme from a beauty as well as utility standpoint. We can furnish you the best breeding stock, as well as the greatest prize winners.



FIRST PRIZE PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK HEN
CHICAGO COLISEUM EXPOSITION DEC. 1930.
BRED AND OWNED BY
BIRD BROTHERS MEYERSDALE PENN.

BIRD BROS.

MEYERSDALE, PA., U. S. A.

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FOR SHEER PLEASURE AND SATISFACTION

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ENJOY OUR 'DIRIGO STRAIN'

PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS

An Outstanding General-Purpose Fowl



FIRST PRIZE HEN AND GRAND CHAMPION PARTRIDGE ROCK NATIONAL CLUB MEET.
FIRST PRIZE PARTRIDGE ROCK COCK MADISON SQUARE GARDEN DEC. 1949-JAN. 1950.
BRED AND OWNED BY, BEAU-SITE FARM, L.C. ALLEN, PROP. SANFORD, MAINE.

BEAU-SITE FARM

Laurence C. Allen, Prop.

227 MAIN STREET
SANFORD, MAINE, U.S.A.



Unretouched photo of Charles and Marion Allen (aged 12 and 10) viewing 'Personality Queen', their Dad's Grand Champion Partridge Rock Hen at Oklahoma City, December 4, 1946, where Judge Harry Atkins of Davenport, Iowa 'met up with' 106 specimens at the National Club meet.

The kids are fast growing-up, but the 'Old Man' keeps on raising "classy-ones" (chickens, of course)

—Our 37th Year—



With Those Captivating Partridge Rocks "The Chicken That Has Everything" (or almost).

Our Majestic Partridge Males carry that rich, brilliant red surface color that veritably burns with resplendence.

Our Partridge Females wear coats of rich, deep reddish-brown artistically bedecked in crescentic pencilings alternating uniformly with clear-cut pencilings of intense black.

"A Thing Of Beauty Is A Joy Forever", aptly comments the Poet. However, aside from Mother Nature's exquisite majesty, we concentrate fully upon practical food values—quality eggs and meat—where these, too, are produced at their best.

1951 PRICES:

Live Birds—Ten dollars each, and up.

Hatching Eggs (The Best)—One dollar per egg (Minimum order fifteen eggs).

No baby chicks or birds partly grown.

We're interested only in 'The Finest On Earth' and we assume you want products only from 'Champions.'

—You, Too, Can Pause and Relax—

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—WINNER OF—
THE SAM A. NOFTZGER SHIELD
THE ATLANTA SILVER PLATTER
THE GOVERNOR OF IOWA TROPHY
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AT THE NATIONAL CLUB MEETS
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Our "Dirigo Strain"
PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS
1914-1953
Tomorrow's Ideal Beauty and Utility Fowl Today



GRAND CHAMPION PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK TRIO (1st O.T.), NATIONAL CLUB MEET. BOSTON, MASS. JAN. 1953. Bred and Owned By BEAU-SITE FARM, L. C. ALLEN, Prop. SANFORD, MAINE.

Majestic Partridge Males—shining forth with rich, brilliant red surface color and solid greenish-black center stripes.

Entrancing Partridge Females—with resplendent coats of rich, intense reddish-brown and black crescentic pencilings.

Superb business-built Plymouth Rock body lines for the finest meat and brown-shelled egg values.

Our finest hatching eggs—basket of 20 eggs for \$15.00

Our second choice hatching eggs—basket 20 eggs for \$10.00

Eggs half-price after April 15th

Single birds \$10.00 each, and up

Trios, male and 2 females, \$25.00, and up

Mated Breeding Pens, male and 4 females, \$40.00, and up

No baby chicks for sale

Purchaser pays transportation charges

Satisfied Customers 'Round the Globe

Write your wants

BEAU-SITE FARM

L. C. ALLEN, PROP.

227 Main Street, Sanford, Maine—Tel. 70

VISITORS WELCOME

JOIN AND ENJOY THE AMERICAN PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB



PARTRIDGE ENCLOSINGS

OFFICIAL MONTHLY
CLUB REPORT

The colorful autumn season always generates special enthusiasm in the minds and hearts of Partridge fanciers because nature blossoms forth in those outstanding Partridge hues of rich brilliant red, lustrous greenish-black, reddish-brown, and intense black which blend together so richly in both our Partridge Rock male and female.

Club Finances

Your treasurer's report of Feb. 3, 1953 covering the period 1952 to Feb. 3, 1953 showed total receipts of \$297.00 and total disbursements of \$293.51, leaving cash balance on hand of \$3.49 and all club bills paid. From Feb. 3, 1953 to Oct. 9, 1954 dues received have totaled \$118.00 and during this period from Feb. 3, 1953 to Oct. 9, 1954 we have paid out \$8.00 each to club members Roy Whitener, Frank W. Stanley, Andrew M. Stodel, P. J. Demasi, and Beau-Site Farm as National Club meet awards at the New Orleans, La. in November 1953 making \$40.00 thus paid out; \$17.50 was paid to The American Poultryman, Sapulpa, Okla.,

our official club paper, for subscriptions to our club members; \$8.50 was paid out for stamps and envelopes; \$10.60 was paid for new club cuts for club use; leaving present cash balance on hand Oct. 9, 1954 of \$44.69. We also have on hand: \$2.00 donated Aug. 6, 1954 by Van Bonneau, Dodson, Texas to be used as directors see fit; \$5.00 donated Aug. 6, 1954 by J. E. "Jake" Jarvis, Cadiz, Ohio for club ribbons; the Bird Bros. Memorial Trophy for Best Display at the National Club meets to be won three times for ownership; and the 1847 Rogers Bros. silver service for eight, remembrance pattern, valued at \$80 for Grand Champion Partridge Rock Trio at the National Club meets to be won three times for ownership.

Club Directors

The newly elected club directors composed of club President Port P. Black, West Liberty, Iowa; vice-pres. Miss Miriam M. Bird, Meyersdale, Pa.; sec'y-treas. Laurence C. Allen, Sanford, Maine; J. E. Jarvis, Cadiz, Ohio; Walter D. Briggs, Springfield,

Mass.; Andrew M. Stodel, Van Nuys, Calif.; Frank G. Barker, Kimball, Minn.; Roy Whitener, Valdeese, N. C., and Roy G. Pavy, Chester, Conn. are now considering the matter of arranging for club ribbons at the various club meets, perhaps shape and color specials for male and female, for Grand Champion Partridge Rock, and for Grand Champion Trio or Pen. To some of us there is no exhibit that can match a beautiful and carefully selected Trio or Pen of birds. Herbert G. Comstock, Penn Yan, N. Y. and Ben Ricketts, Zanesville, Ohio each received six votes for judge at our next National Club meet in Boston mid-January 1955, so the directors will give consideration to this as well. Any members who wish to express personal opinions on any subject please write Pres. Black or your secretary so full consideration can be aired on it.

New Club Breed Book

The new club breed book has been well received and it is hoped that many more calls will come in for a copy or two of this attractive and useful publication. The sale price is \$1.00 each to non-members and 50c each to club members. It contains the completely revised club constitution and by laws; many fine photos; ink that symbolizes the Partridge male and female colors; club membership roll; club historic data, etc.

We received from advertisements \$165.00 and from sales of the breed book to Oct. 9, 1954 \$25.00 (24 free copies were presented to the advertisers) making total receipts to date \$190.00. We paid out on this breed book project: \$391.68 to Coughlan Press, Portland, Maine (500 copies published); to Kohl & Madden Printing Ink Co., Boston \$4.75 for special color ink; \$15.40 to Portland, Maine Engraving Co. for cuts; \$6.00 to Harold B. Osborn at Boston Show for group photo; and \$2.00 for postage making total paid out to date \$419.83, leaving after deducting the \$190.00 from ads and sales the sum of \$229.83 which has been voluntarily advanced by a club member. There are about 450 copies of the breed book on hand for sale and when these are disposed of over a period of time they will result in self-liquidation of the \$229.83 that has been advanced on this project. There is a chance that there will be a little profit for the club treasury eventually. If you have not yet bought or seen a copy of this breed book you are missing a real treat. Better get a copy or two now and enjoy it.

1931 Club Guide Book

The old 1931 club guide book containing 116 pages is still available at special collector's item low price of one dollar per copy. There are only about twenty copies of this one thousand copy edition. There will not be another publication of this valuable book. When these few copies are sold there will be about ten dollars that will bolster the club ribbons fund.

If any member wishes additional details of the club finances at any time write your secretary-treasurer and he will furnish same.

Excerpt from new club breed book:



Group picture taken at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair "Century of Progress" Poultry Exposition, Coliseum, Oct. 11. Front row, left to right: J. E. Gregory, Springville, Iowa; Dr. W. J. Pirie, past president of the club (deceased), Springville, Iowa; Sam A. Noftzger, originator of breed (deceased), Wabash, Indiana; Laurence C. Allen (Beau-Site Farm), Sanford, Maine. Back row, left to right: Cyrus M. Bird (deceased), Bird Bros., Meyersdale, Penna.; Judge Harry Atkins, Davenport, Iowa.

1970 Breed Book

**THE
AMERICAN PARTRIDGE
PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB**

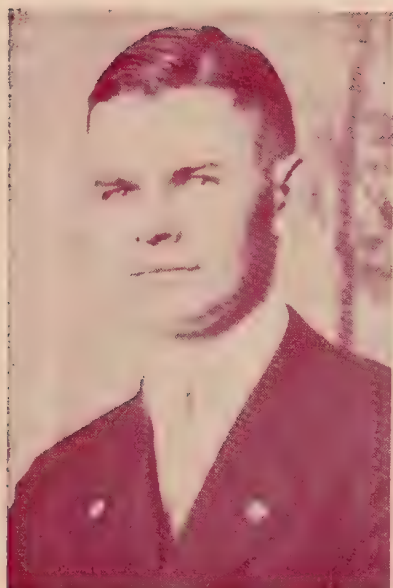


*Standard Bred
Both Large Birds and Bantams*

Sixtieth Anniversary of the Breed

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

Van Bonneau
Dodson, Texas
Club President



Harold A. Hulbert
Burlington, Wisconsin
Club Vice President

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

SOME THOUGHTFUL BRIEFINGS ON PARTRIDGE ROCKS FROM PRESIDENT VAN BONNEAU

Dodson, Texas

A great challenge faces the breeders of fancy poultry today. The changes in urban and rural life in the last forty years have forced many poultrymen out of business.

I have been breeding Partridge color for thirty-three years, twenty-seven years being devoted exclusively to Partridge Rocks. I started with the best blood lines in America and gradually developed my own strain. Am thankful to go to seasoned breeders from time to time for new blood. I have never been able to breed a perfect fowl though the quality does keep improving. Faults in the birds do show up; still I enjoy every minute I devote to my chickens.

We all must study the Standard of Perfection carefully and endeavor to produce better Partridge Rocks. Select fine males that have masculine features, five point combs, arched necks, full rounded fronts, deep bodies, and backs of ideal length and width. The tails should spread nicely from top to bottom and from side to side.

The females likewise should have standard shape and size, with legs well set in the center of their bodies, with beautiful reddish-bay color and the best penciling possible, preferably triple penciling on each feather.



Best Hen American Class
Oklahoma City, December 1962
Van Bonneau

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



BOV Oklahoma City
Van Bonneau

Vigor always is important and freedom from serious defects such as feather stubs, twisted feathers, split wings, or whiteness.

In the male deep red color is important, uniformly even color in his hackle, back, wing bows, and lower saddle feathers is advisable. Medium slate undercolor, rich yellow legs, full bay eyes, and rich red combs as well as descendancy from fine exhibition parents of several generations past can help tremendously.

The same thoughts apply in breeding fine females. A deep even shade of reddish bay ground color throughout and with clear-cut pencilings, triple whenever possible and crescentic in form. While dusky yellow is permitted in the legs, the true yellow can be realized in the best specimens. Extreme opposites or variations in colors should be avoided as a rule.

With careful planning fine males and females, I find, can be produced from the same mating. Blood testing is important and indeed usually required today.

Nature has adorned Partridge varieties of poultry with beautiful color patterns. The black breast, body, and tail and the solid green center striping of the male along with his rich brilliant red surface color causes him to stand out in majestic glory and to blend beautifully with his female mate of reddish-bay and black pencilings.

Let us exhibit our fine specimens each year, particularly at the annual National Club Meet, both large birds and Bantams, and keep them crowing lustily.

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

BEGINNINGS

From Mrs. Leonora C. Hering, Saratoga, California

In the "Plymouth Rock Standard and Breed Book" (1919), now very rare and costly, there is a chapter on Partridge Plymouth Rocks which includes a lengthy article by Sam A. Noftzger of Wabash, Indiana, the originator of one of the finest strains of this breed. He tells the reasons that prompted him—admiration for the handsome Partridge plumage, desire for a breed that would develop flesh rapidly and also produce large egg yields, and the question: "if a Partridge Wyandotte, why not a Partridge Plymouth Rock?"

Mr. Noftzger tells of his first cross in 1898—Dark Cornish males with scantily leg-feathered Partridge Cochins. The next year he bred the pullets of that mating with Golden Wyandotte males, mostly single-comb sports. Then in 1900 the young of those matings were bred back to the 1899 generation. Leg feathering disappeared rapidly, but shape and station were wrong and color almost black.

Year by year Mr. Noftzger tells of his crosses, his successes and failures. No new blood was introduced, improvement was by selection and judicious crosses only. By 1908 he produced over 100 choice show fowls, and a number of these won at America's leading exhibitions.

In the same book there are shorter accounts of the development of other strains, in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Michigan. Other breeds were used by these other originators—Partridge Cochins of course, and Golden Wyandottes, Brown Leghorns, and Golden pencilled Hamburgs. The resulting birds which had the blood of egg breeds in their makeups, not surprisingly were the best egg producers; those with Cornish and Wyandotte blood the better meat birds. All had Partridge Cochins background, which showed in their shape as well as color, and from which occasional "stubs" persisted.

The copyright on this book has long run out. Anyone wishing Xerox copies of the entire article should communicate with the writer (of this article).

A feature of the Partridge Plymouth Rock often overlooked in the articles about their beauty, is that their color is also **protective**. This was clearly demonstrated by the late president of the Partridge Plymouth Rock Club, Mrs. Rose Hurdle.

For reasons of health, Mrs. Hurdle had to take her husband into the deeply wooded region of the Ozarks. There the local people told her it would be impossible to have chickens because "the varmints" would get them. They thought all chickens were white! Mrs. Hurdle wrote the Department of Agriculture in Washington, for suggestions. They told her about the Partridge Plymouth Rocks newly perfected by Mr. Noftzger, and gave her his address. She sent for a pen of them, and their coloring proved protective indeed to be their security against both hawks and ground predators.

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



Honorary Life Member and Club Director Mrs. Leonora C. Hering, Saratoga, Calif., (formerly of Los Altos, Calif.) Donor of annual cash award on Best Female at National Club Meets.

To remember Mrs. Rose F. Hurdle Mrs. Hering is giving her collection of rare and valuable poultry books to Kansas State University in memory of Mrs. Hurdle (1877-1948) who was a pioneer poultry breeder and a past president of our club.

Mrs. Hurdle bred and showed Partridge Plymouth Rocks for many years, and took foundation stock with her when she moved to southern California. So skillful was she in fixing fine feather pattern in hens, that years after her death a poultry judge in the middle west told this writer that he could recognize the Hurdle ancestry of hens as he went around the shows, judging. Her strain of Partridge Rocks was kept alive in all its beauty and productivity by our member, Judge Andrew Stodel of Van Nuys, California, and other breeders.

Mrs. Rose F. Hurdle — 1877-1948
Past Club President



PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



(Left to right) Laurence C. Allen (Beau-Site Farm), Sanford, Maine; Joseph L. Hoelker (Hoelker Bros.), Oldenburg, Indiana; Frank G. Barker, Kimball, Minn.; Paul J. Carpenter, Dayton, Ohio; Mrs. Agnes Barker, Kimball, Minn.; Judge Ben F. Ricketts, Zanesville, Ohio; Bob DeLancey (Poultry Press), York, Pa.; H. T. Bain, Indianapolis, Indiana; F. J. Hoelker (Hoelker Bros.), Oldenburg, Indiana.

Group at National Meet The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club, Indianapolis, January 2, 1960.

PARTRIDGE ROCKS, LARGE AND BANTAMS

By F. J. Hoelker, Oldenburg, Indiana
(Hoelker Brothers)

There is no better general purpose chicken than the Partridge Rocks; and you have beauty in addition. This applies to both the large and the Bantams.

Every fancier should take up the original (the large) Partridge Rock if he or she possibly can, this also pertains to all other breeds and varieties of large fowl or else they will soon become extinct, otherwise we will only have illustrations with pictures and records in books to bring back fond memories.

Bantams, with few exceptions are miniature imitations of their larger counterparts. Due to unavoidable circumstances, we reluctantly gave up breeding and exhibiting the large birds after having them for thirty-six years; but Partridge Rocks are just part of us, so decided to continue with them as bantams.

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

The Partridge Rock bantam is a comparatively new variety. However, more are seen at the shows in all parts of the country each year. In color and markings they are equal to the large, but will take concerted effort to improve the type. It is our experience that birds with the best Rock type still come somewhat over size. This can be overcome by selective breeding.

Standard weights for Plymouth Rock Bantams are: cocks, 36 oz., hens, 32 oz., pullets, 28 oz., and cockerels, 32 oz. Therefore, are large enough to be valuable for meat and eggs. They are prolific layers.

Contrary to general belief the partridge color is not harder to breed than other parti-colored varieties, in fact, easier than some. It is a natural color pattern, several species of wild birds have similar color and markings. Thus following simple fundamental rules in breeding the shade of color in males, color and crescentic markings of the female can be maintained and improved.

Much has been written about double mating causing confusion to the beginner. I say, forget about it. To carry out a double mating system is fine if you have plenty of room and housing. Remember, it's like maintaining two varieties of Partridge Rocks, not worth the effort.

It is my opinion that there are no breeders today who have two distinct lines, one to produce exhibition males and another to produce exhibition females. Good males and females will result by single matings, which really is the female line. This method will result in beautiful crescentic pencillings in the female. The males will have more or less red in breast and fluff, but also get a fair percentage of exhibition quality males with the desired greenish black breast and fluff.

Have a balanced breeding program. Use males with red tinge in breast and fluff, but not to excess, also males of exhibition quality or nearly so. Select well pencilled females. Above all, use birds of good Rock type.

The Partridge Rocks have remarkable resistance to disease. If properly taken care of will live to a ripe old age.

Every person should have a hobby. There is no hobby more healthful and fascinating than breeding and exhibiting standard bred chickens, especially Partridge Plymouth Rocks both the large birds and the bantams.

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

PARTRIDGE ROCK BANTAMS

By J. L. Hoelker, Oldenburg, Indiana

(Hoelker Brothers)

It is a pleasure for me to write an article on Partridge Rock Bantams, our hobby for the last eleven years, having bred the large birds from 1922 to 1958.

Webster gives the following definition of the word, bantam: "From Bantam, Java, as the source of the original breed. A fowl of any of the many small breeds."

Therefore, the Partridge Rock Bantam had to have a gene from the original bantam. No doubt, most of the Partridge Rock bantams of today originated from a single comb Partridge Wyandotte bantam which in turn got its bantam gene from the Partridge Cochins bantam, the latter being bred from the large Partridge Cochins. What bantam gene was used in creating the smaller Partridge Cochins is unknown to me. Perhaps, the Partridge Cochins bantam fancier could give the proper information in regard to the history of the original breeding.

In breeding Partridge Rock bantams in the last eleven years, we have endeavored to stress Rock type above all else, and have been very successful in our efforts. It takes time and patience, but in the long run it generally pays off.

Having bred the large Partridges for thirty-six years, we finally decided to breed the bantams for reasons of easy handling, high express rates, at the same time getting the same thrill in breeding and showing.



Veteran West Coast Breeders of Partridge Plymouth Rocks

Left to right: Robert Pierce, Chatsworth, Calif.; Frank Stanley (deceased), Sun Valley, Calif.; Past Club President Andrew M. Stodel, Van Nuys, Calif.

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



Partridge Rock bantams have fared very well in competition with their larger cousins. They have been very successful in competing with the larger birds for specials at the club shows when awards were open for both to compete. At the National Club meet held at Indianapolis in 1966, a bantam cockerel won color special over all Partridge Rocks competing, both large and bantams; also best female and best opposite sex over all the Partridges in the Rock family.

The Partridge Rock bantam egg laying ability is of the very best, laying a nice sized egg of good quality. In fact, these small beauties are as good if not better winter layers than their larger counterparts. At least, that's our experience. It's a daily routine for both of us to have two bantam eggs for breakfast most of the year.

In conclusion, may we welcome the breeders of the large Partridge Rocks to give their smaller cousins a fair trial. You will not be disappointed. The same pleasure, thrill, and enjoyment will be waiting for you in the event you decide to share part of your poultry ranch with your larger beauties.



Walter D. Briggs
Springfield, Mass.
Venerable former
Club Secretary Treasurer

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

Group Photo at 1933 Chicago World's Fair "Century of Progress" Poultry Exposition, Coliseum, October 11th



Front row, left to right: J. E. Gregory, Springville, Iowa; Dr. W. J. Pirie, Past President (deceased), Springville, Iowa; Sam A. Nofztger, originator of breed (deceased), Wabash, Indiana; Laurence C. Allen (Beau-Site Farm), Sanford, Maine.

Rear row, left to right: Cyrus M. Bird (deceased) (Bird Bros.), Meyersdale, Pennsylvania; Judge Harry Atkins, Davenport, Iowa.

A DELIGHTFUL MEMORY

It was over 60 years ago when I saw a flock of Partridge Plymouth Rocks for the first time. The place was Melrose, Massachusetts, where I lived and went to school. And this is how it all happened.

I was returning home from a walk on a Sunday afternoon in October when I came upon a neat little cottage bordering the road. It had been freshly painted white; had green shutters; and the premises were exceedingly tidy. On the front lawn a well-bred flock of Partridge Plymouth Rock pullets was busy scratching amongst the multi-colored leaves which had blown off a large maple tree nearby. They were such handsome specimens of the breed. And how I admired the beautiful penciling of their feathers. I gazed in amazement as the setting sun flashing through the maple tree seemed to turn their plumage into burnished gold.

A few minutes later the little flock scampered out of sight behind the cottage. I left the happy scene with much misgiving and sauntered along home.

Over the years I have never forgotten the picture that those magnificent fowl so indelibly etched on my memory.

(A true story written by Louis V. Rowe, Fosgate Road, Berlin, Mass.)

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



Left to right: Roy J. Whitener, Club Past President, Valdese, N.C. and Rev. Thos. E. Thompson, late of Hendersonville, N.C.

SOME HISTORIC REVERIES

The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club from its founding September 12, 1931 until now, February 10, 1970, has enjoyed the active support of a group of some thirty to fifty devoted members spread throughout the United States with an occasional booster from Canada, Cuba, England, and even South Africa.

Back in the golden era of poultry fancier farmers, 1910-1916, there were two separate Partridge Plymouth Rock Clubs which later merged and eventually were supplemented by another predecessor club to our present club.

It is heartwarming to recall the fine efforts and enthusiasm of Partridge Plymouth Rock breeders and boosters of long standing. We won't soon forget men like Sam Noftzger, late of North Manchester, Indiana, principal founder of this beautiful and useful Partridge variety of the Plymouth Rock breed of poultry; nor the active years of the late F. N. Perkins, Freeport, Illinois; and stalwarts such as the illustrious Bird Bros., Cyrus M. and Charles E. Bird, late of Meyersdale, Pa.; nor Dr. W. C. Crocker late of Foxboro, Mass.; W. F. Fotterall late of Philadelphia, Pa., or R. G. Buffinton late of Fall River, Mass. We recall with fond memories Dr. W. J. Pirie late of Springville, Iowa, R. A. Muth, late of Huntington, W. Va., and Porter P. Black late of West Liberty, Iowa to name but a few of our top calibre earlier developers of the majestic Partridge Plymouth Rock. In more recent years such names as Rose F. Hurdle, An-

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



Unretouched photo of Charles and Marion Allen (ages 11 and 10) with Penciline Queen, their Dad's Grand Champion Beau-Site Farm Partridge Rock Hen at Oklahoma City December 4, 1946, where Judge Harry Atkins of Davenport, Iowa met up with 106 specimens at the National Club Meet.

drew M. Stodel, Beau-Site Farm, Hoelker Bros., Roy J. Whitener, Van Bonneau, Henry K. Miller, E. Billings Miner, Tom Darden, Harold A. Hulbert and Charles G. Hillenbrand readily come to mind.

Here are some of the notable Partridge Plymouth Rock Club Meet events over the years: 153 birds at Atlanta, Ga. Oct. 1939 when Judge Arthur O. Schilling and Judge Fred Otte Officiated; 143 birds at Athol, Mass. Dec. 1928 Frank Cook, Judge; 119 birds at Iowa City, Iowa Dec. 1927-Jan. 1928; 106 birds at Oklahoma City, Okla. Dec. 1946 under Judge Harry A. Atkins; and 81 birds at Madison Square Garden, New York City Feb. 1915. Other highly competitive and memorable Club Meets have occurred at the big Penna. Farm Show in Harrisburg; at North Manchester, Ind. founding site of Partridge Rocks with grand old Sam Noftzger in attendance; Los Angeles, Calif.; York, Pa.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Chicago, Ill.; Boston, Mass.; Dubuque, Iowa; Omaha, Nebr., and New Orleans, La. when Judge Ben F. Ricketts officiated.

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



At York, Pa. National Club Meet October 30, 1965

Left to right: E. B. Miner, Robt. Booth, Judge Paul Bentz, Thos. Darden, Franklin, Va., Larry Allen, Sanford, Maine; Dick Horstman, RD 4, Burgettstown, Pa.; M. P. Tait, Orefield Post Office, Guthsville, Pa.

During the last five or six years the Partridge Rock Bantam entries have exceeded in numbers the large bird entries. The Club tries to encourage both the large bird and the Bantam entries in allotting the awards.

It appears that many breeds of poultry go back to the wild red Jungle Fowl of India (*Gallus Bankiva*) and the Cochin China or Chinese Shanghai Fowl dating back to 1400 B.C. and which came to England and America in the mid-1800's. It appears that Partridge Cochins were a Standard Breed in 1874. A detailed history of the origin and development of Partridge Plymouth Rocks is reported in the 116 page Club Guide Book issued in 1931 and in the club Breed Book published in 1953.

The official Standard of Perfection of The American Poultry Association Inc. is the Supreme Court of domesticated land fowl and water fowl. The Standard contains some 343 breeds and varieties and over 200 illustrations. The color plate on the ideal Partridge male and female plumage in the Standard of Perfection is priceless. Every breeder should own a copy of this precious book. E. C. Shultz is Secretary of the A.P.A., East 4th St., Crete, Nebraska 68333. Perhaps the first all poultry show in America dates back to 1849 at Boston Common. In earlier years birds used to be judged on points by score card but more recently by comparison of the entries on hand. In each class but under the regulations as set forth in the Standard of Perfection of the American Poultry Association de-

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



At National Club Meet Boston Show

Front, left to right: E. Billings Miner, North Stonington, Conn.; Almon Mowry, Cranston, R.I.; Show Supt. Justin Southwick, Blackstone, Mass.

Standing, left to right: L. C. Allen (Beau-Site Farm), Sanford, Maine; William Lyons (deceased), Milford, Mass.; APA Judge Charles Wabek, Durham, N.H.; Roger West, Hadley, Mass.; Fred Crockett, Douglas, Mass. (Leo Wall Photo)

clarifying how much emphasis shall be given to color, shape, size, feather markings, condition, weight, etc. In the Plymouth Rock large birds the cock should weigh $9\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., the cockerel 8 lbs., hen $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and pullet 6 lbs. Please see other articles herein for further details in various aspects of both large birds and Bantams.

It is interesting to note the changes in describing the ideal plumage in male and female from time to time. Today the top notch Partridge Plymouth Rock males grace the Show Hall with a medium shade of rich, brilliant red surface color and with solid lustrous greenish-black centre stripes in neck, back, and saddle feathers while showing an intense or distinct black body, fluff, and breast. And today's ideal Partridge Rock female now carries a medium shade of deep or intense reddish-bay (that is, rich, deep reddish-brown) as her dominant surface color and with three or more distinct crescentic pencilings of a deep reddish-bay alternating with her distinct black pencilings crescentic in form, uniformly spaced, clear-cut, and conforming to the shape of her feathers in neck, back, breast, body and fluff. In the Partridge female a distinct black is preferred more than in the male, although a greenish-black sheen may sometimes appear in some sections. Greenish sheen on the Partridge

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

male's breast and main tail feathers afford a charming deviation from his distinct black body and fluff. A slight edging of red in the fluff may be tolerated, but we Partridge admirers need not be too concerned over the exact tone of colors or as to the exact quantity of sheen so long as extremes are avoided and clarity in markings, and richness and evenness of tone are present. Genuine slate undercolor, nicely rounded five point single combs, together with full reddish-bay eyes, good yellow legs, good body posture, and vigor complete the main points in our ideal general-purpose fowl.

Poultry Press, York, Pa. and Feather Fancier, Erin, Ontario, Canada merit the interest of all Chicken Fanciers. American Bantam Association, Geo. Fitterer, Sec'y., P. O. Box 464, Chicago, Ill. 60690 offers publications of special interest to the Bantam folks.

Both the Club Guide Book of 1931 and the Club Breed Book of 1953 contain the full Club Constitution and By Laws. Separate copies of same are available while the supply lasts. Annual Club dues are still only two dollars for a full year membership.

The object of the Club is to encourage the promotion and development of Partridge Plymouth Rocks as ideal general-purpose fowl through the cooperative efforts of all the Club Members.

Club elections are conducted by the Election Commissioner biennially in even years in April. During March in election years the Directors shall nominate three members for each office, including 18 nominees of Directors at large.

Before March 1st in election years any member may express to the Club President or Secretary his willingness or desire to be nominated to a particular office and he may recommend other members to serve in some office.

During March in each year the Directors shall nominate two or more Shows for the National Club Meets, such Shows for District, Regional, and State Meets as they deem best, and two or more Judges for such Meets.

Before March first in each year any member may recommend to the Club President or Secretary such Meet choices and such Judge choices as he deems best to be considered for possible nomination by the Directors.

Balloting first week in April.

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

Past President Roy J. Whitener, Valdese, N.C. and Walter D. Briggs, venerable former Club Secretary-Treasurer, Springfield, Mass., Club President Van Bonneau, Dodson, Tex., Vice President Harold A. Hulbert, Burlington, Wis., and several more Club Members have been assisting your Committee Chairman Larry Allen, Sanford, Maine in promotion and publication of this new Club Breed Book. We all have given the project sincere thought and effort, and aside from cash available from the advertisements and from distribution of copies of the booklet at a dollar per copy the remaining cost of the project is being underwritten by donation from a club member without further cost to the club or to the members. Receipts from further distribution of the booklet will go into the club treasury. Full details of the booklet is on record at the office of the Club Secretary-Treasurer.

At least once each year the Club Secretary-Treasurer issues a club financial report to each member, and to date there always has been a moderate net cash balance in the club treasury.

We Partridge Rock Fanciers whose genuine interest in the breed and/or the club dates back from ten to fifty-five years in time and who have many priceless experiences and memories, including in some instances the rare privilege of exhibiting and of personally attending the annual National Club Meets, from ten to thirty or more events.

We all, I am sure, have had our off years in health or in bad experiences from wild animals of poisoning, or thefts, or what else. But our true Fancier Spirit persists and we do continue onward to bask in rare good fellowship and enjoyable observation and fascination when we happen upon really outstanding males or females whether large birds or Bantams in this, our chosen Partridge Rock breed.

Nowadays there prevails a wonderful and widespread interest in raising and exhibiting Fancy breeds and varieties of chickens in some European countries and in Canada. History does repeat and some fine day there will be a grand revival of chicken fanciers and poultry shows in the United States. Meanwhile we all need to encourage the perpetuation of good breeding stock and the active interest of young folk in raising fine breeds like Partridge Plymouth Rocks, both the large birds and the Bantams.

February 10, 1970

LCA

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

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Mrs. Alice E. Carpenter with box of Beau-Site Farm Partridge Rock Chicks

PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK

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PARTRIDGE ROCK CLUB BREED BOOK



Gary Hardel, Bongards, Minn. This young man, aged 16, made a Sweepstakes Showing with his outstanding Partridge Rocks at the National Meet, Minneapolis, October, 1969.



Original sketch of Partridge Rock Bantams, male and female, by Robert A. Gary and obtained by courtesy of his grandfather, Frank L. Gary, 5 Barbara Dr., Crosswicks, N.J. 08515.

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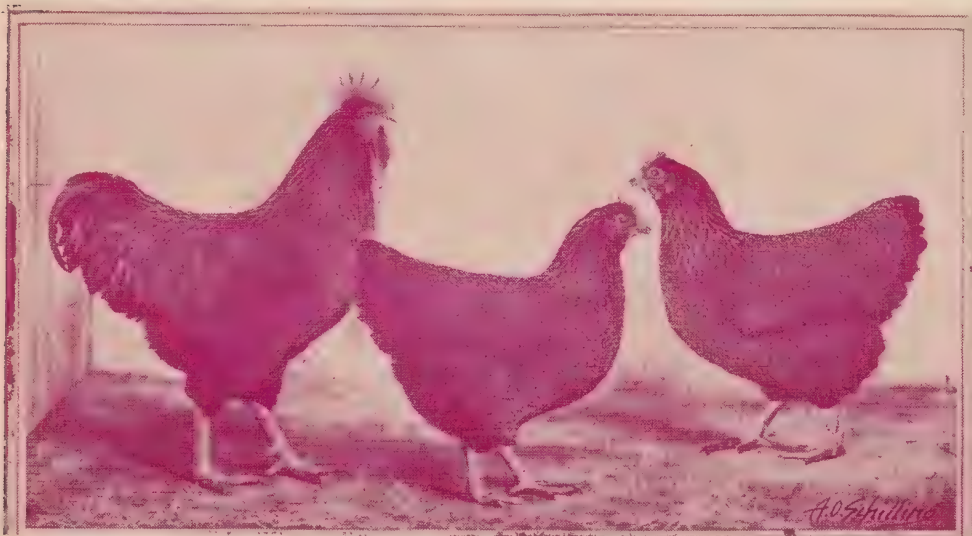
In 1914 Larry Allen's Dad, a local attorney, became interested in Partridge Plymouth Rocks. He raised some each year until his decease in 1917. Except for college and law school years, son Larry Allen, has made a life-time hobby of Partridge Plymouth Rocks. For some 35 years Mrs. Alice E. Carpenter has hatched and raised the Beau-Site Farm chickens at the small Carpenter farm home in Alfred, Maine, on the left bank of Shaker Pond.

Special awards won Beau Site Farm entries at the annual National Club Meets include: The Nofztger Display Shield at Boston, 1942 at Dubuque and at Portland, Maine 1945; the Dr. W. J. Pirie Memorial Trophy for Best Bird at Oklahoma City 1946; at Madison Square Garden 1949; at St. Paul, Minn. 1950; Silver Platter, Atlanta, Ga. Oct. 1939; Best Display in entire Show; Governor of Iowa Trophy 1942; Best Display in entire Show; Bird Bros. Memorial Trophy, best display Boston 1953 and New Orleans, La., Chest of Silverware Grand Champion Trio Boston 1953.

Other top awards at Chicago, Harrisburg, Indianapolis, North Manchester, Ind., Los Angeles, York, Pa. and Omaha.

On numerous occasions over the years Beau-Site Farm customers have taken the Blue Ribbons at the Top Shows.

Beau-Site Farm salutes all good Partridge Rock Fanciers and especially hails younger breeders like Tommy Stanley and Gary Hardel.



Grand Champion Partridge Plymouth Rock Trio (1st old Trio) National Club Meet, Boston, Mass. Jan. 1953. Bred and owned by Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, prop., Sanford, Maine.

December 4, 1996

Kruegers' Kluckers
Bill and Joy Krueger
7025 Center Road
Manitowoc, WI 54220

Dear Bill and Joy:

Norman Hillenbrand (Wyoming, DE) recently gave me a couple of very remarkable books on Partridge Rocks. It occurred to me that much of the Partridge Rock history that is in both of those books is unknown to the poultry public as a whole. For that reason, I have decided to write a substantial article on standard Partridge Rocks for the 1997 APA YEARBOOK.

A preliminary draft of that article is enclosed. Any suggestions that you might have for improving the article (additions, deletions, corrections, amplifications, etc.) would be much appreciated. Who are the primary breeders and exhibitors of standard Partridge Rocks at the present time that you know about? Do you know when the American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club became inactive/ceased to exist?

My own Partridge Rocks are doing fine--they are about 50% your bloodline. Over the years, I have introduced a bird from here and there.

Please put me on your list for twenty-five standard Partridge Rock chicks this winter/spring. I'll be happy to receive them any time that's convenient for you. Let me know the price and I'll send you a check.

Sincerely,

S. Robert Powell
R. D. 1, Box 40
Carbondale, PA 18407-9706

December 4, 1996



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By Appointment Only

CHINA and CRYSTAL REPAIR

CHARLES G. HILLENBRAND, SR.

Mr. Charles G. Hillenbrand
R. D. 1, Box 159
Wyoming, DE 18834

4405 Mud Mill Road
Wyoming, DE 19934

Dear Mr. Hillenbrand:

I have been enjoying very much the two Partridge Rock books that you gave me at Richmond. Thanks again.

It occurred to me that much of the Partridge Rock history that is in both books is unknown to the poultry public as a whole. For that reason, I have decided to write a substantial article on Partridge Rocks for possible publication in the 1997 APA YEARBOOK.

A draft of that article is enclosed. Any suggestions that you might have for improving the article (additions, deletions, corrections, amplifications, etc.) would be much appreciated. I am trying to include the names of as many of the prominent breeders and exhibitors of Partridge Rocks as possible from the past and present. When did the American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club become inactive/cease to exist?

Having read the two books that you gave me on Partridge Rocks and having decided to write this article, my enthusiasm for Partridge Rocks was such upon my return from Richmond that I put together two breeding pens of Partridge Rocks the following day. I will start to save eggs for incubation this coming Sunday (12-08-96).

Sincerely,

S. Robert Powell
R. D. 1, Box 40
Carbondale, PA 18407-9706

Partridge Plymouth Rocks

By S. Robert Powell

Sam A. Noftzger, of Wabash, Indiana, is generally regarded as the originator of the strain of Partridge-Pencilled Plymouth Rocks that were recognized by the American Poultry Association as a standard variety in 1909 and officially admitted to *The American Standard of Perfection* on August 10, 1910, in Saint Louis. (Silver-Pencilled Rocks were admitted in 1907.) In 1909, Noftzger wrote a detailed article in which he described how he created and developed Partridge Rocks.

A copy of Noftzger's article and a vast quantity of information about Partridge Rocks were published in the *Partridge Plymouth Rock Guide Book* that was published by The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club in 1931. A copy of that book--and a copy of *The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club 1970 Breed Book* (published on the 60th anniversary of the breed)--were presented to this writer by Charles G. Hillenbrand, the prominent breeder of Partridge Plymouth Rocks, from Wyoming, Delaware, at the 1996 Virginia Poultry Breeders' Show at Richmond. From those two books, we have learned a great deal about Partridge Rocks, whose history and development are directly related to the so-called Cochin craze that developed during the second half of the nineteenth century in America.

At that time, there were two distinct types of Cochins: (1) the "full-feathered," or English variety, and (2) the "scanty-feathered," or American variety. For a time, the two types of Cochins competed in separate classes in shows in America, but the American Cochins, with their scanty leg feathering, were soon dropped in favor of the more massive English type. Their scanty leg feathering notwithstanding, the American-type Cochins had outstanding partridge color and were highly regarded as utility birds that laid an exceptionally large number of eggs.

For a time, Noftzger crossed the English and American types of Cochins and developed birds that had better partridge color than the pure English type and better leg feathering than the pure American type. With such birds, he won on Partridge Cochins (which he continued to breed until 1907) in shows all over America.

Noftzger was not satisfied, however. He decided that he would create a new variety of fancy poultry with the following qualities: rapid growers, good egg layers, good table birds, single combs, together with the outstanding partridge color of the American Cochins. In 1898, Noftzger, having had the

experience of helping others a few years before to create the Partridge Wyandotte, began the long process of creating Partridge-Pencilled Plymouth Rocks.

In the spring of 1898, Nofztger selected four American-type Partridge Cochins females with outstanding egg-laying qualities and exceptional partridge color. (One of those females, hatched on April 1, 1896, and named "Georgine" by Nofztger, laid 27 eggs in 28 consecutive days.) Georgine, her full sister, and two half-sisters were each mated with an Indian Game (Dark Cornish) cockerel with bright yellow legs, thin high comb, eyes toward the bay as much as possible, and Plymouth Rock shape as near as possible.

The next year, 1899, Nofztger mated eight of the females from that first cross with Golden Wyandotte cockerels, mostly single-comb sports, principally in pairs and trios, but one or two of the most desirable males were given an extra female. The third year, 1900, nine single matings were made between the best females hatched in 1899 from the single matings and the Golden Wyandotte males used in 1899.

The following year, 1901, ten pens were mated, using cocks and hens for the first time. In 1902 two pens were mated. In succeeding years, female Partridge Wyandotte sports, with single combs, were introduced into the blood line. In 1907, 60 females were divided into ten breeding pens, and Nofztger noted that in that year "the new breed made the greatest progress of its history." In 1908, fourteen matings were made and over a hundred choice show birds, regarded unhesitatingly by judges as the best in existence, were produced. Nofztger's ten years of ceaseless work in developing Partridge Rocks had paid off. Of such birds, R. LeRoy Armitage said: "They have the laying qualities of the Leghorn, the meat and vigor of the Game, and the beauty of the Partridge Cochins--truly a wonderful creation!"

Other breeders created their own strains of Partridge Rocks, using their own means, more or less at the same time that Nofztger was doing so. Nofztger's strain, however, was generally regarded as the finest strain of Partridge Rocks.

Among those other creators of strains of Partridge Rocks were E. O. Thiem; Dr. W. C. Crocker of Foxboro, MA (began his efforts in 1899; relied heavily on single comb sports from Partridge Wyandottes; also used Golden-Pencilled Hamburgs, Golden-Laced Wyandottes, Brown Leghorns, and Partridge Cochins; Crocker is regarded by some as the originator of the primary eastern strain, Nofztger as the creator of the western strain).

Also, John Lowe of Swansea, MA; Rowland G. Buffinton of Fall River, MA; Messrs. Brackenbury and Cornell (used single-combed sports

from Partridge Wyandottes, also Partridge Cochins and Brown Leghorns; this Cornell is Ezra Cornell, who founded Cornell University); Elmwood Farms, Weston, NJ; Hillcrest Farm (William F. Fotherall, proprietor), Oakland, PA; and Rock Hill Poultry Farm, Ossining, NY.

The fact that all those breeders--and many more--were all working, more or less simultaneously, to create the Partridge Rock is all the more remarkable these days, when more than a few of the standard breeds of poultry that were created in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries are fighting for their lives, so to speak.

In the years after 1910, Bird Bros. (Charles E. and Cyrus M.) of Meyersdale, Pennsylvania were very successful breeders and exhibitors of Partridge Plymouth Rocks. Other prominent early developers and breeders from the early years were F. N. Perkins (Freeport, IL), Dr. W. C. Crocker (Foxboro, MA), W. F. Fotherall (Philadelphia, PA), R. G. Buffinton (Fall River, MA), Dr. W. J. Pirie (Springville, IA), R. A. Muth (Huntington, WV), Porter P. Black (West Liberty, IA).

Highly regarded and well-known breeders in more recent years (listed in the 1970 Breed Book) are Rose F. Hurdle, Andrew M. Stodel, Beau-Site Farm (Laurence C. Allen), Hoelker Bros., Roy J. Whitener, Van Bonneau, Henry K. Miller, E. Billings Miner, Tom Darden, Harold A. Hulbert, and Charles G. Hillenbrand.

The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club (APPRC) was organized between January 1st and March 2nd, 1931. The officers for 1931 were President, Joseph L. Hoelker, Oldenburg, IN; Vice-President, Dr. W. J. Pirie, Springville, IA; Secretary-Treasurer, Laurence C. Allen, Sanford, ME; Election Commissioner, Everett T. Lord, Sanford, ME.

In the first eight months of its existence, the APPRC, with over 50 members, drew up and adopted a constitution and bylaws, and published its *Guide Book*, under the direction of the Guide Book Committee, made up of J. L. Hoelker, R. L. Armitage, and L. C. Allen. The American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club published monthly club notes; it designated *Plymouth Rock Monthly of Chicago* as its official monthly club magazine for 1931. Official APPRC ribbons were offered by the club for champion male, champion female, and champion pen at shows where five or more entries in each of those classes were shown by three or more club members.

Partridge Rocks--characterized by the APPRC as "The Beauty-Utility Fowl"--were shown in large numbers at many shows earlier in this century. At present-day poultry shows there are sometimes less than 25 birds in the entire American class. In light of that fact, consider the number of Partridge

Rocks alone that were exhibited at these shows in the past: Madison Square Garden, 1915, 81 birds; Keene, NH, 1926, 91 birds; Boston, 1927, 80 birds; Portland, 1927, 122 birds; Athol, MA, 1928, 143 birds; Iowa City, 1928, 119 birds; Providence, 1929, 113 birds; Portland, 1930, 62 birds; Atlanta, 1939, 153 birds; Oklahoma City, 1946, 106 birds.

There were 38 members in the club in 1970. Among them were Laurence C. Allen (Beau-Site Farm), Mrs. Alice E. Carpenter (who hatched and raised the Beau-Site Farm chicks for 35 years), Charles G. Hillenbrand, Dick C. Horstman, Cyril F. Menges, Henry K. Miller (Blue Stream Farm), and Tommy Stanley. The president of the Partridge Plymouth Rock Club in 1970 was Van Bonneau of Dodson, TX.

Several engravings by A. O. Schilling of Partridge Rocks are known to exist. Among them are: "First Prize Partridge Rock Cockerel, Madison Square Garden, January 1921, Bred and Owned by Bird Brothers, Meyersdale, PA"; "First Prize Partridge Rock Cockerel, Madison Square Garden, New York, January 1926, Bred and Owned by Bird Brothers, Meyersdale, PA"; "First Prize Partridge Plymouth Rock Hen, Chicago Coliseum Exposition, December 1930, Bred and Owned by Bird Brothers, Meyersdale, Penn."; "First Prize Hen and Grand Champion Partridge Rock, National Club Meet, and First Prize Partridge Rock Cock, Madison Square Garden, Dec. 1949--Jan. 1950, Bred and Owned by Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine"; "Grand Champion Partridge Plymouth Rock Trio (1st old Trio) National Club Meet, Boston, Mass., Jan. 1953, Bred and Owned by Beau-Site Farm, L. C. Allen, Prop., Sanford, Maine."

The *Partridge Plymouth Rock Guide Book* that was published by the American Partridge Plymouth Rock Club in 1931 contains, as we mentioned earlier, a great deal of information on Partridge Rocks, including the following articles: "Partridge Rocks--Reflections on Nature" by F. N. Perkins; "History and Development of Partridge Plymouth Rocks" by Henry J. Hunt; "High and Low Tides in Partridge Rock History" by R. LeRoy Armitage; "Why We Are Breeding the Partridge Rocks" by Hoelker Brothers; "What Constitutes a Real Partridge Plymouth Rock?" by S. F. Raff.

Also, "A Woman's Success with Partridge Rocks" by Mrs. Fern Smith; "The Partridge Plymouth Rocks are Steadily Advancing" by D. M. Barcus; "View of the Partridge Plymouth Rock from All Angles" by R. LeRoy Armitage; "Improvement in Partridge Plymouth Rocks" by Mack T. Marshall; "Raising Partridge Rocks" by Dr. W. J. Pirie; "Whose Cherry Is Red" by Shade; "Clear Hackled Females" by F. N. Perkins; "Partridge

Plymouth Rock Color and Markings" by Laurence C. Allen; "The Beautiful and Artistic Partridge Plymouth Rocks" by Joseph L. Hoelker; "Partridge Rocks--Their Quality and How to Mate Them" by Edward A. Hamann; "Partridge Rock Mating Hints" by Laurence C. Allen; "Mating Partridge Plymouth Rocks" by S. A. Nofztger; "Trapnesting Partridge Plymouth Rocks" by Thomas G. Kinvig; and "Partridge Plymouth Rocks" by Rev. F. H. Eva Holcombe.

Among the breeders and exhibitors of standard Partridge Plymouth Rocks at the present are Fred Brusco (West Patterson, NJ), Norman Ennis (Pocomoke, MD), Charles G. Hillenbrand (Wyoming, DE), Bill and Joy Krueger (Manitowoc, WI), S. Robert Powell (Carbondale, PA), Robert Richie (Rome, NY), Jerry Sliker (Layton, NJ), Tommy Stanley (Ashland, VA), and Joe Vivian (Amboy, IL).

* * * * *